

IOWA BIRD LIFE

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The Iowa Ornithologists' Union, founded in 1923, encourages interest in the identification, study, and protection of birds in Iowa and seeks to unite those who have these interests in common. Iowa Bird Life and IOU News are quarterly publications of the Union.

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Meet an Iowa Birder — Jane Clark

Carol Berrier



Jane Clark

Perhaps you've shared spring warblers with Jane Clark on an IOU field trip, sat next to her at an Iowa Audubon board meeting, listened to her preside over a Central Iowa Sierra Club meeting, or heard her discuss an important environmental issue. Hers is the friendly face that greets a new person to the group. Hers are the sharp eyes that spot the Mourning Warbler and the keen ears that identify the Yellow-throated Warbler's song. And when birds are scarce, her store of nature lore can often put a name to that puzzling plant underfoot.

Jane Rule was born on a farm south of Clear Lake on 27 April 1941. She grew up in the prairie pothole region of Iowa near Swaledale and Thornton, where she played in the farm grove, climbing the rocks and trees. She remembers noticing birds in Zirbel Slough south of Clear Lake, hearing Screech Owls call, and, as a young woman, asking her mother to identify the bubbling song of a House Wren.

Jane went on to attend the University of Iowa, but left after three years and before finishing her degree. Unlike many other college drop-outs, Jane did return to school there, and, some 20 years later, received her degree in Liberal Studies.

Jane's early professional career found her at the Iowa Employment Service where she worked as a job placement officer. It was here that she met Jim Clark who worked as a statistician. It was also here that she found Jim a new job as one of Pioneer Hi-Bred's computer pioneers — one of only five working for the company computer department at that time. They married in 1968. Since that time, Jim has not wavered in his support of Jane's burgeoning passion for environmental issues and has been supportive both financially and emotionally.

It wasn't until Jane and Jim moved from Des Moines to their present house in Clive in 1977 that her passion for birds fully fledged. Their backyard merges into the Clive Greenbelt along Walnut Creek, so birds are plentiful. The Clarks put out some feeders and brought out their Golden Guide, *Birds of North America*. In it Jane keeps a record of the birds she has seen over the years, and the dates of their arrivals. The creek lures spring and fall migrants, and Jane's feeders and backyard habitat bring a multitude of species close for easy viewing. Of special note are the Yellow-breasted Chat, Black-throated Blue Warbler, and Winter Wren. Towhees over-winter in the Greenbelt, Brown Thrashers and Gray Catbirds nest there, and the Clarks have seen as many as thirty Northern Cardinals and thirty White-throated Sparrows at one time from their windows.

Hoping to preserve and enhance the Clive Greenbelt, Jane became active in her community, serving twenty years on the Clive Park Committee/Board and ten years on the

Clive Tree Board, during which time, with the help of third graders, hundreds of trees were planted in the “children forests.” Jane was honored as Clive’s Citizen of the Year in 2004.

Jane’s growing interest in birds led her to join Des Moines Audubon Society in 1982, where she met people who nurtured that enthusiasm. That same year she teamed with Eugene and Eloise Armstrong and Dick and Pauline Mooney for her first Christmas Bird Count. Eugene led monthly field trips, and Pauline and Margaret Brooke walked the Clive Greenbelt with her, sharing their birding skills. In taking a “Birds and Habitat” class taught by fellow Des Moines Audubon member, Gary Nelson, Jane expanded her knowledge. Bob Cecil helped to broaden her horizons by introducing her to the birds of Iowa’s Shimek State Forest, and more recently, of Mexico. Jane served as vice president of Des Moines Audubon Society from 1984–1986 and 1990–1992 and as president from 1986–1988 and 1992–1994. She continues to serve on the board. She has written, published, and circulated their newsletter, *The Warbler*, for more than twelve years.

Jane is a long-time member of the Iowa Ornithologists’ Union. She served as secretary from 2000–2002 and on the Conservation Committee under Carol Thompson. She also undertook the task of organizing and hosting the 1998 spring meeting at Camp Sunnyside near Ankeny.

Jane was most active as a birder in the 1990s, when she took trips out of state. Her three trips to Arizona added Painted Redstart, Acorn Woodpecker, and Vermilion Flycatcher to her records. Of her two trips to Florida, the Limpkin in the Wekiva River was a stand-out. She heard a Golden-cheeked Warbler in Texas and saw many new birds in Mexico. Jane claims to be a casual birder now, but we know that her skills remain intact.

Jane helped coordinate volunteers for the Des Moines Peregrine Falcon Reintroduction Project beginning in 1991. In 1995, Jane was appointed to the Polk County Conservation Board for a five-year term and served as chair in 1998 and 1999. She has been a member of the Soil and Water Conservation District Commission since 2002.

Jane served as chairperson of the Iowa Sierra Club for five years, working on threatened and endangered species issues. She has, for the last five years, been the managing editor of the *Iowa Sierran* which reaches 6,000 members. Jane is currently chair of Central Iowa Group. Jane considers her career to be her volunteer work devoted to conserving natural habitats, promoting diversity, and making the world a safer place for birds and other wildlife. In fact, everything Jane does is “basically, for the birds!”

Jane’s full-time volunteering often means working overtime. This was never more apparent than with the Des Moines Peregrine project when she was called on to rescue a fledgling that landed on a Park Place apartment balcony. As secretary of Iowa Audubon, Jane responded to calls on the Iowa Audubon phone line for many months after Director Paul Zeph moved out of state, giving advice and help when asked. One call led her to rescue a starving young American Kestrel trapped in a machine shed. She promptly drove the bird to Osceola where it thrived under rehabilitator Beth Brown’s care. Although focused on the big picture of habitat and species preservation, Jane consistently shows compassion for the individual’s plight, as in September of 1998 when an unusual hummingbird appeared at a feeder in Des Moines. First thought to be a Buff-bellied Hummingbird, it was later determined to be an *Amazilia* Hummingbird from Peru — an escapee, perhaps from the Des Moines Botanical Center. Concerned about the bird’s survival, Jane set out to capture it even though previous attempts had failed to net it. With the help of her husband and fellow birder David Spreadbury, a secure trap was devised and the little hummer was finally

rescued on 22 November, just before the weather turned wintry. Jane's undertaking wasn't complete until she drove the tiny bird to its new home at a rainforest exhibit in southern Kansas (Stolz et al. 1999).

The environmental community owes an immense debt of gratitude to Jane Clark for her unstinting devotion to the causes we value, and many Iowans have received postcards, letters, and, more recently, e-mails alerting them to important issues or enlisting their help with critical projects. Jane keeps abreast of issues affecting wildlife and their habitats, and willingly devotes her time to meeting with representatives of county, state, and federal agencies and organizations. Next time you see a green Honda CRV with HABITAT license plates, wave to Jane, and wish her Godspeed as she tools along to yet another meeting about conservation in Iowa.

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Identification of Cackling and Canada Geese in Iowa

Paul Hertz, W. Ross Silcock, and Stephen J. Dinsmore

When the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU) (AOU 2004) recently split the Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) from Canada Goose (*B. canadensis*), the subsequent confusion over taxonomic divisions and the similarity of the two species immediately created a field identification challenge. This has resulted in a myriad of published references on the identification of the two species, and in some cases subspecies, although these sources have not always been consistent. Here, we briefly review the most current knowledge on the taxonomy and distribution of the two species, discuss the status of the species and associated subspecies in Iowa, and provide some guidance for their identification in the field. We stress that the identification techniques described below will not work on every bird, and that there is still much to learn about the status, distribution, and identification of these two species in Iowa.

TAXONOMY

The name "White-cheeked Goose" is widely used to refer to the various taxa included within the two species, Canada Goose and Cackling Goose, as constituted by the AOU (AOU 2004). Ten subspecies of White-cheeked Goose were described by the AOU (1957),

including only the following whose described ranges included Iowa: *interior*, *maxima* (then considered extinct), and *hutchinsii*. Since then there have been further attempts to delineate subspecific relationships within White-cheeked Geese. Palmer (1976) attempted to clarify the evolutionary histories and relationships among populations and modified the AOU (1957) classification. His work and others' have left considerable taxonomic confusion that also impacts our understanding of the populations found in Iowa. The most recent treatment of this species pair is that of Mowbray et al. (2002), who listed 11 subspecies of White-cheeked Goose. Genetic studies have shown that two groups can be discerned within these 11 subspecies, one containing seven large subspecies and the other four small subspecies. It was these two groups that the AOU (2004) elevated to full species: Canada Goose, consisting of the seven large subspecies, *canadensis*, *interior*, *maxima*, *moffitti*, *parvipes*, *occidentalis*, and *fulva*; and Cackling Goose, consisting of the four small subspecies, *hutchinsii*, *laverneri*, *minima*, and *leucopareia*.

STATUS AND DISTRIBUTION IN IOWA

According to ranges described by Bellrose (1976), Palmer (1976), and Mowbray et al. (2002), subspecies of Canada Goose likely to occur in Iowa are *interior*, *maxima*, *parvipes*, and *moffitti*, and of Cackling Goose the only likely subspecies is *hutchinsii*. Mowbray et al. (2002) are unclear on the occurrence of *parvipes* in Iowa, although it likely occurs as a migrant. Below, we briefly summarize what is currently known about the distribution of each of these subspecies in Iowa.

B. c. interior is a medium-large goose that breeds in east-central Canada and migrates primarily along the Mississippi Flyway, with small numbers using the Missouri Valley, and winters from Squaw Creek NWR in northwest Missouri southward. This subspecies would be expected in Iowa as a migrant, but is a large goose and thus is difficult to separate in the field from *maxima* and *moffitti* and their intergrades (see below).

B. c. maxima was the historical breeding White-cheeked Goose in Iowa, but was virtually extinct by 1900. Its rediscovery and re-introduction throughout Iowa have once again made it a common bird in the state. Introductions to Iowa of *moffitti*, whose currently-described breeding and wintering ranges are west of the Great Plains (Mowbray et al. 2002), have confused the genetic makeup of resident Iowa birds. Indeed, Palmer (1976) merged these two taxa as *moffitti*. Both *maxima* and *moffitti* and their introgressants^a winter in Iowa; many are probably resident, and most large Canada Geese in Iowa are in this *maxima/moffitti* group. Interestingly, these large resident geese, especially first and second year nonbreeders, but also a few failed adult breeders, undertake a major molt migration in June to the western Hudson Bay area, returning in fall with other migrant White-cheeked Geese. This explains why many fall migrant goose flocks include some very large Canada Geese.

B. c. parvipes is of uncertain status in Iowa due to difficulty of separating this subspecies in the field from larger subspecies and from Cackling Goose. Its range, as currently understood (Mowbray et al. 2002), suggests that it migrates generally west of Iowa, but in decreasing numbers eastward perhaps to central Iowa. As the smallest of the Canada Goose subspecies, it is difficult to separate from Cackling Goose, with which it has been thought to interbreed to a considerable extent in northern Canada (Mowbray et al. 2002). Recent studies, however, indicate that gene flow is minimal, allowing recognition of *parvipes* and *hutchinsii* as distinct taxa and the consequent split of White-cheeked Geese into separate

species (Shields and Wilson 1987; Van Wagner and Baker 1990; Pearce et al. 2000; AOU 2004; McLaren 2004). Separation in the field of *parvipes* from smaller individuals of *moffitti* also is difficult. Small, pale-breasted Canada Geese, most likely in western Iowa, are likely to be *parvipes*, however.

B. c. moffitti, as described by Mowbray et al. (2002), in its natural state occurs at the west edge of the Great Plains. However many “park” and re-established geese in Iowa are intergrades of *moffitti* and *maxima* (see above).

B. h. hutchinsii is a small pale-breasted Arctic goose, which migrates through most of Iowa. In general, they are an earlier fall and later spring migrant than Canada Geese. They arrive in early October, small numbers often over-winter, and most have departed by late March. Although typical individuals can be separated in the field from *parvipes*, many small White-cheeked Geese are difficult to identify to species.

GENERAL FIELD IDENTIFICATION

Now that ornithologists have separated the Cackling Goose from the Canada Goose at the species level, it falls upon field observers to separate the two in the field. This would be a straightforward affair involving little more than an assessment of body size were it not for the fact that the most robust Cackling Geese approach, and may actually overlap, the most diminutive Canada Geese. So, while birds at the extremes of the range in sizes of these two taxa are readily identified, often even to subspecies, those in the middle of the range require a more careful, critical look. Some intermediate birds may not be safely separable in the field. In the sections that follow, our focus is to provide details that will enable observers to be certain they are looking at Cackling Geese, at least some of the time.

An arbitrary member of the Cackling/Canada Goose complex possesses a familiar set of characteristics known to nearly every birder. Perhaps the most distinguishing mark is the black head and neck with the striking white patch emanating from the throat, cover-

ing the cheek, and terminating behind the eye (Figure 1). This mark gave rise to the name “White-cheeked Goose” to refer to the complex. The black coloration of the neck stops abruptly at or above the breast, giving the appearance that a sock has been pulled over the head of the bird. Body colors range from light gray or grayish-brown to dark brown with varying degrees of texture and scalloped edges to feathers, particularly



Figure 1. This photo of a mixed species flock of Canada and Cackling Geese illustrates the general features that identify these taxa, including the black “sock” over the head and neck and contrasting white cheek. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.



Figure 2. This Canada Goose (larger bird in rear, probably *B. c. maxima*) and Cackling Goose (smaller bird in front, *B. h. hutchinsii*) illustrate clearly the differences in size and structure between the two species. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.

in the appearance of the folded wing. In contrast, the vent and both upper and lower tail coverts are white. The tail itself is black, and the feet and bill are black.

This general set of characteristics fits both Canada and Cackling Geese, but it is doubtful anyone could confuse *maxima*, the largest and a light-bodied Canada Goose, with *minima*, the smallest and a dark-bodied Cackling Goose. The size difference between these extremes is striking and it is not difficult to accept that genetic studies indicate we should recognize the existence of at least two matriarchal clades^b. The large-bodied group, now called Canada Goose, has nearly all members larger in size than nearly all members of the small-bodied group, now Cackling Goose (Figures 2 and 3). However, size varies within the respective subspecies of

both groups, meeting approximately at *B. c. parvipes*, *B. h. hutchinsii*, and *B. h. taverneri*. Thus, the midrange of this complex contains a confusing array of geese, with identification made even more difficult by variation in each subspecies, and possibly by hybridization between populations. The problems associated with field identification of a particular goose from this size range may never be completely resolved.

FIELD IDENTIFICATION IN IOWA

In Iowa, the light-bodied Cackling Goose, *B. h. hutchinsii*, which appears to be a regular and common migrant, and the light-bodied Canada Goose, *B. c. parvipes*, which appears to be a rare migrant, offer the greatest identification challenge to birders. While both share

the common characteristics of White-cheeked Geese described above, a direct comparison of body size with nearby known species, combined with a careful look at head and bill shape and neck proportion, will enable the identification of most Cackling Geese in Iowa. The following is a brief summary of these



Figure 3. The three leftmost birds and the bird fifth from the left are Cackling Geese. Note that two of these individuals are roughly the size of the Mallards and are noticeably smaller than the three Canada Geese. Photograph by Paul Hertz, Mason City, IA.

Figure 4. Nearly the same size as a Lesser Snow Goose, this Cackling Goose with its blocky head and stubby bill is most likely a male *hutchinsii*. Photograph by Paul Hertz, Mason City, IA.



characteristics in *hutchinsii*, ranked from most to least important when trying to identify one in the field:

1. **Size.** There is considerable variation in both size and weight, with females averaging smaller than males, and birds at the northern edge of the breeding range averaging smaller than those at the southern edge. Mowbray et al. (2002) give a range in the mean weight of males from north to the south of 1.92–2.38 kg and for females 1.65–2.10 kg. These figures put an extremely small female at barely 55% of the size of a large male. In the field, this translates to a rather wide range that lies roughly between the size of a Ross's Goose and the size of a (Lesser) Snow Goose (Figure 4). Many individuals can be quite small, even smaller than a Mallard. At the large end, a White-cheeked Goose that exceeds a Greater White-fronted or Snow Goose in size is a candidate for *parvipes*, and would need some definitive *hutchinsii* features listed below before being identified as a Cackling Goose.



Figure 5. This Cackling Goose shows the typical blocky head shape of the species. Note the concave angle between the bill base and forehead, rather flat crown, and bump at the rear of the crown. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.

2. **Head shape.** A blocky head shape is thought to be the most reliable mark in identifying *hutchinsii* (Figure 5). We agree it is probably a sufficient condition, but it seems not to be a necessary condition. Many individuals do exhibit a squared or knobby shape to their heads, especially birds at the heavy end of the weight range where males dominate the population, but every flock seems to contain many individuals lacking this feature entirely, with many others having an intermediate, wedge-shaped appearance to the head. Whether or not this variation is along gender lines within *hutchinsii* is unknown, but *parvipes* is not known to show



Figure 6. Differences in neck length are apparent in this photo of a mixed species group of Canada and Cackling Geese. Beginning on the left, we believe these birds are a Lesser Canada Goose (*B. c. parvipes*), a Canada Goose (*B. c. interior*), a pair of Cackling Geese (*B. h. hutchinsii*; female on the left, male on the right), and the right goose is a Canada Goose (*B. c. maxima*). Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.

a knobby or blocky head. Therefore, a small white-cheeked goose with a knobby head, especially with a steep forehead line, is almost certainly *hutchinsii*.

3. **Bill shape.** Because *hutchinsii* is on average smaller than a Canada Goose, its bill also is smaller. However, there is more to it than this — the bill is *proportionately* smaller, and noticeably so. Most individuals have a stubby, triangular bill similar to the bill of a Ross's Goose. Measurements given by Leafloor et al. (1998) and Mowbray et al. (2002) show minimal overlap in culmen length with Canada Goose (*B. c. parvipes*), which tends to have a longer, flatter bill.
4. **Neck length.** Perhaps the most variable structural feature in *hutchinsii* is the shape and length of the neck. Many birds have extremely short necks, as measured along the ventral surface from the chin to the bottom of the sock (Figure 6). Some are barely longer than they are wide. This short, thick-necked appearance is a good mark for *hutchinsii*, but it is not a necessary condition. It is complicated by the fact that an individual goose has an inherent ability to alter the apparent length of its neck from a relaxed posture to an alert posture. Small *hutchinsii* with a long neck are unknown, but some birds at the large end, probably males, do have necks of a very different proportion. Some appear to have a sock length that is two or more times as long as its average width. The longer, thinner neck is typical of *parvipes*, so its occurrence is problematic in identifying *hutchinsii*. Thus, while a relaxed *parvipes* can appear to have a fairly short neck, any small White-cheeked Goose studied long enough to determine that its neck (sock length) is not much longer than it is wide can be safely identified as a Cackling Goose. If it is light-bodied, then it is almost certainly *hutchinsii*.
5. **Individual bird versus flock.** Identifying a lone bird with no direct comparison to other waterfowl can be an inconclusive endeavor. However, if such a bird is judged to have a blocky head, a stubby bill, and a short, thick neck, then there can be little doubt it is a Cackling Goose. If it is also light-bodied and found in Iowa, it is surely a member of the *hutchinsii* subspecies. On the other hand, encountering Cackling Geese in a flock can provide considerable additional assurance of their identity. Besides giving multiple examples of the variation in size and structural features, the flock behavior is also noteworthy. Cackling Geese are extremely gregarious but seem to prefer their own company, often remaining segregated from other White-cheeked Geese when found in large, mixed-species flocks. In flight, the flocks are often dispersed, with multiple lines and/or V formations intersecting patches of loose birds. Their high-pitched cackling calls are distinctive and differ from the lower-pitched and more spaced vocalizations of Canada Geese.

Identifying a Canada or Cackling Goose to species can certainly provide an identification challenge in Iowa. However, safely labeling a particular individual to a subspecies requires even more careful study, although the study of subspecies will almost surely improve your ability to recognize the two species.

SUMMARY

The identification of Canada and Cackling Geese in Iowa is indeed challenging, but with good views and a careful consideration of subspecific variation, many individuals can be safely identified to species. Our knowledge of the distribution of the various subspecies in Iowa is still not fully known, however, so birders are encouraged to study, photograph, and report their sightings of known subspecies so that our knowledge of both species will increase. Lastly, we note that we have correctly identified the birds in the photos to the best of our ability, although we were not unanimous on the identity of all individuals in all photos!

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^a Introgression is the introduction of genes from one species into the gene pool of another species, occurring when matings between the two produce fertile hybrids.

^b A clade is a taxonomic group of organisms classified together on the basis of homologous features traced to a common ancestor.

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Field Reports — Spring 2006

Matthew C. Kenne

WEATHER, HABITAT, AND GENERAL TRENDS

This spring season came in two flavors: warm and wet in March and April, followed by a dry May. The mild weather at the end of February continued through the first twelve days of March, with Glenwood and Shenandoah at 76 degrees on the 1st and Burlington reaching 79 on the 11th. After a cool mid-month period produced the season's only major snow, the 70s returned again by the end of the month, and this warmth persisted throughout April. The 14th wettest March on record was followed by the 26th wettest April, but when May arrived, the faucet shut off, making May 2006 the 20th driest on record. While freezes were reported in early May and finally on the 22nd, the last week of May found temperatures in the 90s at various locations around the state. The spring season finished as the 24th warmest of 134 years, and quite similar to 2004.



Matthew C. Kenne

An early end to winter and pleasant (if windy) conditions affected migrant birds and our ability to observe them this spring. Geese and ducks began moving before the period, but large numbers were widely reported as birders enjoyed getting out. Considering the amount of waterfowl present across the state, the fact that no scoters were found was an oddity. April shorebirds were widespread, but May birds were concentrated by dry weather at draining wetlands like Big Wall Lake in Wright Co., Riverton Wildlife Area in Fremont Co., and Mallard Marsh in Cerro Gordo Co. The combination of water levels, ice conditions, and food supply that attracted the wide array of large white-headed gull species to the Quad Cities area this winter (Cecil 2006) enticed them to remain into the spring season, with several loafing until record late dates.

Warblers were found in unremarkable numbers for most of their migration period in the eastern two-thirds of the state, but they were remarkably unreported from the west. Very few migrant warblers were found by western birders despite targeted searching, although the concurrent thrush migration was thought to be heavier than normal. IOU members at the spring meeting at Clear Lake 19–21 May were greeted by a fallout of warblers and more, which surprised and pleased everyone in attendance. There may be a correlation between Harris's and Clay-colored Sparrow migration, and this year was not an exception: higher numbers, more reports, and farther east. Grassland sparrows seem to be doing very well, Henslow's in particular, and walking short grass this spring produced more Smith's Longspurs than ever before.

A major spring trend this year was early arrivals. Whether warmer temperatures or the resulting increased observer activity is more of a contributing factor is subject to debate, but new studies seem to indicate a shift to earlier migration among some species is underway, perhaps as a response to global warming (Jonsén et al. 2006). Among water-birds,

Blue-winged Teal, Ibis sp., Snowy Egret, Virginia Rail, Semipalmated Plover, Dunlin, Stilt Sandpiper, Caspian Tern, Forster's Tern, and Black Tern had early individuals. The land-bird list is even more extensive: Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Eastern Phoebe, Eastern Kingbird, Warbling Vireo, Tree Swallow, Sedge Wren, Nashville Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Summer Tanager, Savannah Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Bobolink, Yellow-headed Blackbird, and Orchard Oriole set new March and April arrival dates.

UNUSUAL SPECIES

Casual and Accidental species reported were Garganey, Whooping Crane (reintroduced), Snowy Plover, Whimbrel, Curlew Sandpiper, Black-headed Gull (not at Spirit L.), California Gull, Iceland Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Black-billed Magpie (at the usual location), Sprague's Pipit, and Painted Bunting. Other uncommon birds were: Red-throated Loon, Yellow Rails, Black-necked Stilts, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Barn Owl, a late Snowy Owl, Bewick's Wren (not at the junkyard), an over wintering Gray Catbird, Audubon's Yellow-rumped Warbler, Prairie Warbler, White-winged Crossbill, and Common Redpoll.

SPECIES DATA

All CAPS = Casual or Accidental species. * = documented. County names are in italics. Full names of contributors are at the end of the article. Abbreviations used: **A** = area, **Isl** = island, **L** = lake, **m.ob.** = many observers, **NA** = nature area, **NWR** = national wildlife refuge, **P** = park, **R** = river, **RA** = recreation area, **Res** = reservoir, **SF** = state forest, **Sl** = slough, **SP** = state park, **USNWR** = Union Slough National Wildlife Refuge, **WCCB** = Winnebago County Conservation Board, **WPA** = waterfowl production area, **WA** = wildlife area.

Greater White-fronted Goose: The largest counts, as expected, were from the central and west; 1,582 on 1 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk* (AB), 2,200 on 3 Mar at Big Wall L *Wright* (SSP, KLP), 2,600 on 4 Mar at Riverton WA *Fremont* (SJD), 3,000 on 17 Mar at Badger L *Monona* (GLV), and 1,700 on 19 Mar at Anderson L *Hamilton* (SSP). Good numbers passed through eastern Iowa as well, with 600 counted 12 Mar at Cone M *Louisa* (CJC) and 900 found 16 Mar at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (JPa). The last

straggler was at New L *Woodbury* 26 May (POR).

Snow Goose: Most: 15,000 on 4 Mar in *Fremont* (SJD). The ratio of color morphs was notable among flocks observed by the Pattersons in central Iowa: only 3 blue were seen among 3,800 white 3 Mar at Big Wall L *Wright*, and 75% of 3,300 were white 29 Mar at South Twin L *Calhoun*.

Ross's Goose: There were many reports of single-digit groups as far east as *Louisa*. Most: 225 on 4 Mar in *Fremont* (SJD), 200 on 26 Mar in *Ida* (SJD), and 165 on 29 Mar at South Twin L *Calhoun* (SSP). The latest stayed until 13 May at Long Pond *Guthrie* (DTh, POR).

Cackling Goose: Most: 160 on 1 Mar at Big Creek L *Polk* (AB), 195 also on 1 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk* (AB), and 700 on 3 Mar at Big Wall L *Wright* (SSP, KLP). Much smaller numbers were reported subsequently until the last 6 on 19 Mar at Anderson L *Hamilton* (SSP, KLP).

Mute Swan: Lone March wanderers were seen in *Johnson* (BSc) and *Polk* (JB, PEL), while May singles were in *Iowa* (BSc)

and *Hancock* (RGo). One continues residence at Diamond L *Poweshiek* (MPR).

Trumpeter Swan: Scattered pairs and small groups of tagged and untagged birds were reported from across the state.

Tundra Swan: All reports were away from their Mississippi R staging area: 5 Mar at Maffitt Res *Dallas* (RIA-photo, PHA), 2 on 18 Mar at Otter Creek M *Tama* (BVA), and 3 on 29 Mar at USWR *Kossuth* (MCK).

Gadwall: Peak: 600 on 29 Mar at Sunken Grove WA *Pocahontas* (SSP), and counts of 505 and 3,600 on 2 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (BE, RLC). One pair was still at Colo Ponds *Story* 31 May (HZ).

American Wigeon: Last: 9 on 26 May at New L *Woodbury* (POR).

American Black Duck: There were five March reports of singles or pairs from the eastern half of the state, and 4 on 17 Mar at Red Rock Res *Marion* (PEL).

Mallard: Most: 7,000 on 5 Mar at Jester P *Polk* (JG).

Blue-winged Teal: First: 3 on 1 Mar at Blue L *Monona* (POR) [third earliest]. Most: 1,586 on 9 Apr at Riverton WA *Fremont* (SJD).

Cinnamon Teal: All: a drake 3–9 Apr at Tannery Ponds *Woodbury* (POR, BFH, GLV, CJC), and 9 Apr at Hanlontown M *Worth* (CJF).

Northern Shoveler: Most: 1,000 on 18 Mar at Pinchey Bottoms *Marion* (JB), 985 on 29 Mar at Sunken Grove WA *Pocahontas* (SSP), and 1,600 on 9 Apr at Twelve Mile L *Union* (SJD).

Northern Pintail: Most: 1,117 were at Saylorville Res *Polk* by 1 Mar (AB) and 6,000 were at Riverton WA *Fremont* 4 Mar (SJD).

GARGANEY: A spectacular drake was photographed 7 Apr at Tannery Ponds *Woodbury* (*POR).

Green-winged Teal: Most: 1,320 on 29 Mar at Sunken Grove WA *Pocahontas* (SSP) and 1,350 on 1 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (SJD).

Canvasback: Most: 50,000 were counted 11 Mar at Pool 19 *Lee* (CRE). Peak reports from the rest of the state were 100–200 birds. Last: 21 May at Eagle L *Hancock* (POR).

Redhead: Most: 225 on 5 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk* (AB) and 220 on 12, 19 Mar at Polk City WA *Polk* (BE, RLC).

Ring-necked Duck: Most: 20,000 on 11 Mar at Pool 19 *Lee* (CRE). Elsewhere, 1,000 on 19 Mar at Polk City WA *Polk* (RLC) and 1,560 on 29 Mar at Sunken Grove WA *Pocahontas* (SSP) were the most reported.

Greater Scaup: Up to 8 were seen in ten counties statewide.

Lesser Scaup: Most: 10,000 on 11 Mar at Pool 19 *Lee* (CRE). Across the state, 2,000 were at L Manawa *Pottawattamie* 27 Mar (LJP, BKP). A possible breeding pair lingered at Colo Ponds *Story* 31 May (HZ).

Scoter sp.: No scoters of any kind were reported this spring.

Long-tailed Duck: The only one was a female 22 Apr at Twelve Mile L *Union* (SJD, AB, JG).

Bufflehead: Most: 51 on 10 Apr at East Twin L *Hancock* (SSP). Last: 16 May at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO).

Common Goldeneye: Most: 200 on 1 Mar at New L *Woodbury* (BLF). Last: 26 Apr at Port Neal Ponds *Woodbury* (POR).

Hooded Merganser: Most: 102 on 5 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk* (JG) and 136 on 16 Mar at Coralville Res *Johnson* (CRE). The southernmost brood was reported at Cumming Wetlands *Warren* 14 May (JB).

Common Merganser: Most: 2,900 on 5 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk* (JG). The last report was of 2 fem at Clear L *Cerro Gordo* 18 May (PH).

Red-breasted Merganser: First: 1 Mar at Pleasant Creek RA *Linn* (DP). Most: 242 on 1 Apr at Clear L *Cerro Gordo* (PH) and 564 on 2 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (BE). Last: a female at Eagle L *Hancock* 21–22 May (POR, PH).

Ruddy Duck: First: 5 on 7 Mar at New L Woodbury (BLF). Most: 71 on 19 Mar at Saylorville Res Polk (RLC). Seven were still at Colo Ponds Story 31 May (HZ).

Gray Partridge: Reports from *Allamakee* (DP), *Sioux* (JVD), and *Carroll* (RTh) outline the core range of this species.

Ruffed Grouse: Only one report: 26 Mar at Yellow River SF *Allamakee* (DP).

Greater Prairie-Chicken: Up to 17 chickens were reported from their lek at Kellerton Grasslands BCA Ringgold (JG, BSc, DTh, JB, MP, WO, JJD).

Northern Bobwhite: The most northerly was a single late May bird at Pleasant Creek RA Linn (BSc, CJC). Others were in *Dallas*, *Jefferson*, *Madison*, *Appanoose*, *Lee* (JB, DCP, DTh, RLC, DP), and 23 were found in *Decatur* 26 May (NJM).

Red-throated Loon: One in basic plumage was at Little Wall L *Hamilton* 14 Apr (*MP, SSP-photo, KLP, JG-photo, SJD).

Common Loon: First: 17 Mar at L Rathbun *Appanoose* (PEL). Most: 10 at L Rathbun 1 Apr (RLC). Stragglers were still at Mason City *Cerro Gordo* and Ada Hayden P *Story* 31 May (CJF, WO).

Pied-billed Grebe: First: 2 Mar at Diamond L *Poweshiek* (MPR). Most: 23 on 8 Apr at L Macbride *Johnson* (CJC).

Horned Grebe: First: 17 Mar at Cedar L *Linn* (DP, BSc). The only birds reported from the eastern third of the state were 3 on 8 Apr at Guttenberg *Clayton* (DAK). Nine other locations had up to 12 birds (20 Apr at Tannery Ponds *Woodbury* [POR]), with the last singles 12 May at New L *Woodbury* and 13 May at L Manawa *Pottawattamie* (both POR).

Red-necked Grebe: All: 1 Apr at Clear L *Cerro Gordo* (PH), 12 Apr at East Twin L *Hancock* (RGo), 22 Apr at Myre Slough *Winnebago* (JB), 15 May at Cheever L *Emmet* (PH, RGo), 18 May at Trumbull L *Clay* (LAS), and 2 on 26 May near Hanlontown M *Worth* (CJF, RGo, PH).

Eared Grebe: First: 19 Mar at Bacon Creek P *Woodbury* (GLV). Most: 8 on 3 May at New L *Woodbury* (POR). Last, and the only report from the eastern half of the state: 16 May at Burr Oak *Winneshiek* (DC).

Western Grebe: First: 15 Apr at Trumbull L *Clay* (LAS). Most: 15 on 5 May at L Manawa *Pottawattamie* were the most the Padelfords had ever seen in the state. Last: singles 20–21 May at Clear L *Cerro Gordo* (CJC, DP, CJF, PH, MP) and 21 May at Trumbull L *Clay* (LAS). All six locations reporting Westerns Grebes were from the western half of the state.

American White Pelican: First: 300 migrating north 4 Mar in *Lee* (DP). Most: 795 on 10 Apr at Big Wall L *Wright* (SSP).

Double-crested Cormorant: First: 3 on 10 Mar at Credit Isl *Scott* (POR). A large gathering of 500 was reported 18 Apr at L Rathbun *Appanoose* (DT), otherwise the most were 100 on 13 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CJC).

American Bittern: First: 3 Apr at both Ames and a wetland in rural *Story* (Robin Formaker and Mike Meetz fide HZ), and 4 Apr at South Sycamore Bottoms *Johnson* (MHB). Up to 6 were reported from eighteen additional counties.

Least Bittern: All: 12 May at Errington M *Polk* (JG, AB, SJD), 18 May at Smith's Slough *Clay* (LAS), 25 May at Otter Creek M *Tama* (MP), and 29 May at Meredith M *Hancock* (PH).

Great Egret: First: 26 Mar at Cardinal M *Winneshiek* (DC). Most: 17 on 1 May at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO).

Snowy Egret: There were 2 on 5 Apr at Tannery Ponds *Woodbury* (POR-details) [third earliest], then singles: 14 Apr at Little Wall L *Hamilton* (SSP, KLP), 19 Apr at L Macbride *Johnson* (CJC, CRE, JLF), 20 Apr at Blue L *Monona* (JSt), 23 Apr at Trumbull L *Clay* (LAS), 2 on 4 May at Heron Bend *Lee* (CF), 11 May at Port Neal Ponds *Wood-*

bury (BFH, POR), and 25–26 May at Hawk-eye WA *Johnson* (DP, AB).

Little Blue Heron: All: an adult 15 Apr at L Geode *Henry* (CF), an adult 19 Apr at Ames *Story* (SJD), 3 May at New L *Woodbury* (POR), 2 on 3 May at Banner WA *Warren* (RTr), and an adult found by Curt Nelson on an IOU Spring Meeting field trip 21–22 May at Silver L *Worth* (PH, CJF, RGo).

Cattle Egret: First: 6 at Mebaska Pond *Boone* (SJD), 9 at West Des Moines (RLC), and 3 elsewhere in *Polk* (DJN), all on 16 Apr. Most: 12 on 3 May in *O'Brien* (JVD). Up to 5 were seen in eight additional counties, with the last on 30 May at Colo Ponds *Story* (HZ). None were reported from the eastern half of the state.

Green Heron: First: 21–23 Apr in *Johnson*, *Winneshiek*, and *Wayne* (CJC, DP, DC, MHB, RLC).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: First: 8 on 18 Apr at Big Wall L *Wright* (SSP). Only 1–3 birds were found in six additional counties.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: All: 23 Apr and 21 May at Chichaqua WA *Polk* (BE), 3 May near Jester P *Polk* (RIA, PHA), and 9 May in *Chickasaw* (DCH).

Plegadis species: Twelve on 12 Apr at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury* (GLV) [third earliest], and singles 14 Apr at Jester P *Polk* (DTh), 16–17 Apr near Grimes *Polk* (JB, RIA, PHA, JG, AB, SSP, KLP), and 17 Apr at Amana L *Iowa* (CRE, CJC, DP) were most likely White-faced, but diagnostic details weren't clearly apparent.

White-faced Ibis: As many as 14 were reported from ten additional counties in the western half of Iowa until the last on 22 May at Altoona *Polk* (TNG).

Turkey Vulture: First: 2 on 1 Mar at Carroll *Carroll* (RTh) and 4 Mar over Bob Cecil's house in Des Moines.

Osprey: The first reports were both from 5 Apr: 2 at Jester P *Polk* (RIA, PHA)

and at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO). Single birds were reported from eleven additional counties.

Mississippi Kite: No reports.

Bald Eagle: The largest gathering reported was of 58 on 5 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk*, 40% of which were adults (JG).

Northern Harrier: Most: 8 on 19 Mar at Big M *Butler* (SSP, KLP). Last: 17 May at USNWR *Kossuth* (MCK) and 20 May at Eagle L Flats *Hancock* (RGo).

Sharp-shinned Hawk: Only 8 singles were reported. With fewer reports than the winter season, spring Accipiters seem to be either unnoticed or unreported when they aren't terrorizing feeding stations.

Cooper's Hawk: Reported from sixteen locations, with nesting birds found in *Warren*, *Kossuth*, and *Polk* (JG, MCK, DK).

Red-shouldered Hawk: As commonly reported as Cooper's Hawk this spring, they were seen at fifteen locations in thirteen eastern and central counties, with nesting reported from *Polk*, *Allamakee*, and *Butler* (JG, DK).

Broad-winged Hawk: First: 13 Apr at Algona *Kossuth* (MCK). Most: 12 on 28 Apr at Goose L *Hamilton* (AB). Nesting was reported from *Boone*, *Story*, *Emmet*, and *Polk* (3) (JG, SSP, KLP, RGo, DTh, PJW, AB).

Swainson's Hawk: First: 5 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM). Most: 11 on 22 Apr at River-ton WA *Fremont* (LJP, BKP). Last: 14 May at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury* (POR). From 1–3 were seen in *Union*, *Carroll*, *Warren*, and *Kossuth* (JG, SJD, RTh, AB, MCK).

Rough-legged Hawk: Ten birds were reported from nine counties, with the last on 15 Apr at Bjorkboda M *Hamilton* (MPR).

Golden Eagle: All: 4 Mar in *Mitchell* (PH), an imm 18 Mar at Union Grove SP *Tama* (MP), and an adult 19 Apr near Coralville Res *Johnson* (DP).

Merlin: Two Prairie Merlins and 4 Tai-gas were at the Glendale Cemetery roost in Des Moines 3 Mar (JG, AMJ), where the last

2 were reported 5 Apr (RIC). Seven other singles were found in Mar and Apr, and a late traveler was seen 21 May at Elk Creek M *Worth* (PH-details) [ties record latest].

Peregrine Falcon: The first of many reports throughout the period: 16 Mar in *Decatur* (NJM). Three-peregrine days were reported by Steve Dinsmore in central Iowa 12 May and southwest Iowa 13 May, and by Lee Schoenewe in northwest Iowa also on 13 May. Late migrants were still being found 20 May at Eagle L *Hancock* (MPr) and 25 May near Russ WA *Hancock* (AB).

Yellow Rail: All: a bird found by Ken Lowder 24–25 Apr at Waterworks P *Johnson* (MHB, DP, CRE, CJC, THK), 29 Apr at Errington M *Polk* (JG, SJD), and 29 Apr in *Pottawattamie* (DD).

Virginia Rail: First: 8 Apr in *Story* (Mike Meetz fide HZ) [third earliest]. Widespread daily new arrivals began 22 Apr.

Sora: First: 12 Apr near Guttenberg *Clayton* (DAK). Daily first-of-year reports began 20 Apr, similar to Virginia Rail. An unexpected peak of 87 gave flight calls as they passed overhead at Ames *Story* during the early morning hours 3 May (SSP).

Common Moorhen: All: 27 Apr–7 May at Swan L *Johnson* (m.ob.), 29 Apr at Cardinal M *Winneshiek* (JPa), 4 May at Goose L *Hamilton* (AB), 7 May at Beaver Bottoms Wetland *Dallas* (JG), 12 May at Myre Slough *Winnebago* (CJF), and 19 May near Bjorkboda M *Hamilton* (JB).

American Coot: Sunken Grove WA *Pocahontas* sank further under 4,200 coots 29 Mar (SSP).

Sandhill Crane: Early pairs were at both Pool Slough *Allamakee* (FL) and Cone M *Louisa* (DP) 6 Mar. The largest flock was 23 on 18 Mar at Otter Creek M *Tama* (BVa), where a pair with 2 very small colts were observed 10 May (THK, JLF). Cranes were seen at ten additional locations in the eastern half of Iowa, some with presumed nesting, and in the west 4 Apr at Kiowa M *Sac*

(HZ) and 14 May at Dan Green Slough *Clay* (LAS).

WHOOPING CRANE: Five wandering subadult Whooping Cranes from the reintroduction project at Necedah NWR in Wisconsin spent 6–26 May at Lande River WA *Winnebago* (*CJF, Robert Schwartz). A later flock of 7 explored as far west as *Palo Alto* 19 May before returning home (Robert Schwartz WCCB-details).

Black-bellied Plover: First: 2 on 2 May at Colo Ponds *Story* (MPr). Most: 20 on 22 May at Eagle L *Hancock* (PH). Last: 24 May at USNWR *Kossuth* (MCK) and 25 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CRE).

American Golden-Plover: First: 29 Mar at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (DP) and 1 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (SJD). Most: flocks of 200–500 were found in *Woodbury*, *Fremont*, and *Clay* 8–12 Apr (BFH, POR, SJD, JG, SSP, GLV), while May birds went almost unreported. Last: 20 on 21 May in *Franklin* (MPr).

SNOWY PLOVER: L Rathbun produced the third *Appanoose* Snowy Plover 10 May (*RLC, *TNJ).

Semipalmated Plover: First: 8 Apr at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury* (BFH, POR-details) [third earliest]. Most: 120 on 9 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CRE), 128 on 12 May at Big Wall L *Wright* (PH), and 107 on 13 May at Riverton WA *Fremont* (SJD). Last: 26 May at both Hawkeye WA (DP) and Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO).

Piping Plover: First: 4 on 26 Apr at Port Neal Ponds *Woodbury* (POR, BFH). Most: 11 at Port Neal Ponds 31 May (POR). Also seen 3, 9, 12 May at Saylorville Res *Polk* (SJD, JG, AB), 10 and 13 May at Sandpiper RA *Polk* (DTh, BE), 22 May at New L *Woodbury* (POR), and 3 on 28 May at MidAmerican Ponds *Pottawattamie* (DP).

Black-necked Stilt: All: 2 on 25 May at Mallard M *Cerro Gordo* (PH-photo) and 25–27 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CRE, DP).

American Avocet: First: 14 on 12 Apr at Diehl Wetlands *Warren* (JG) and 4 also 12 Apr at Eagle L *Hancock* (RGo). Most: 23 on 20 Apr at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (DR), 30 on 20 Apr at Coralville Res *Johnson* (CJC, CRE, JLE, BSc, DP), and 23 on 26 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (RIA, PHA). Last: 8 May at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO, HZ, SJD) and 10 on 10 May at New L *Woodbury* (GLV, POR).

Greater Yellowlegs: First: 4 on 7 Mar at New L *Woodbury* (BFH). Most: 60 on 17 Apr at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CRE), 57 on 22 Apr at Riverton WA *Fremont* (SJD), and 50 on 22 Apr at Pool Slough *Allamakee* (FL). Last report: 23 on 1 May in *Dallas* (RIA, PHA).

Lesser Yellowlegs: First: 9 Mar at L Morris *Lucas* (RIA, PHA) and 11 Mar at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury* (BFH). Most: 491 on 22 Apr at Riverton WA *Fremont* (SJD), 700 on 3 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CRE), and 1,000 on 4 May at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury* (GLV). Last: 20 May at Mallard M *Cerro Gordo* (DP).

Solitary Sandpiper: First: 9 Apr at Riverton WA *Fremont* (JG, SJD). Last: 31 May at Polk City WA *Polk* (DK-details) [record latest].

Willet: First: 2 on 14 Apr at Jester P *Polk* (DTh). Peak: 14–59 birds were found 26 Apr–1 May in *Woodbury*, *Cherokee*, *Marshall*, and *Dallas* (POR, BFH, DB, MP, RIA, PHA). Last: 26 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (DP).

Spotted Sandpiper: First: 22 Apr at Pool Slough *Allamakee* (FL) and 23 Apr at Banner WA *Warren* (POR). Most: 22 on 9 May at Saylorville Res *Polk* (AB).

Upland Sandpiper: First: 13 Apr in *Decatur* (JRL). They were only reported from six additional counties. Most: 12 on 23 Apr in *Appanoose* (RLC).

WHIMBREL: All: 9 May at L Rathbun *Appanoose* (*TNJ) and 13 May at Riverton WA *Fremont* (SJD-details).

Hudsonian Godwit: First: 3 on 13 Apr in *Clay* (SSP-photo). Most: 70 on 12 May at New L *Woodbury* (POR), 491 on 13 May at Riverton WA *Fremont* (SJD), and 250 on 14 May at Badger L *Monona* (POR). Most other counts were single digits, all were less than 21 birds. Last: 26 May at both Jensen M *Madison* (RTr) and Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (DP).

Marbled Godwit: First: 5 on 13 Apr in *Clay* (SSP-photo). Most: 20 on 16 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (JPa) and 17 on 17 May at Coulter M *Franklin* (MPr-details). Reports from nine additional counties were all of less than 10 birds. Last: 1 or 2 on 22–23 May at Eagle L *Hancock* (PH, RGo).

Ruddy Turnstone: All: 3 on 3 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CRE) [second earliest], 6 May at Hawkeye WA (DP), 10 May at Sandpiper RA *Polk* (DTh), 9 on 18 May at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO), 21 May at Ada Hayden P (WO), 13 on 25 May at Hawkeye WA (CRE), and 26 May at Trumbull L *Clay* (LAS).

Sanderling: First: 2 on 3 May at Coralville Res *Johnson* (CJC, DP). Sanderlings were reported from eight additional counties, with the largest flocks 25 on 13 May at Saylorville Res *Polk* (CJC) and 19 on 20 May at Spirit L *Dickinson* (ETh). Last: 3 on 28 May at MidAmerican Ponds *Pottawattamie* (DP).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: First: 17 Apr at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (DP). Most: 2,000 on 13 May at Riverton WA *Fremont* (SJD), with several other late May flocks numbering 200–300. Last: 750 were still present 29 May at Eagle L *Hancock* (PH).

Western Sandpiper: All: 10 on 26 Apr at L Rathbun *Appanoose* (RLC-details), 2 on 10 May at Lamoni *Decatur* (*JRL), and 12 May at Polk City WA *Polk* (JG, SJD-details, AB-details).

Least Sandpiper: First: 19 Mar at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO), but the next weren't reported until 8 Apr at Owego Wetlands

Woodbury (POR, BFH). Most: 125 on 12 May at Big Wall L *Wright* (PH), 150 on 13 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CJC), and 150 on 25 May at Mallard M *Cerro Gordo* (PH). Last: 25 on 29 May at USNWR *Kossuth* (MCK).

White-rumped Sandpiper: First: 1 May in *Dallas* (RIA, PHA), followed by 2 on 3 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CRE) and 6 on 3 May at Tannery Ponds *Woodbury* (POR). 800 at Riverton WA *Fremont* 13 May (SJD) were far and away the most, with 250 on 29 May at Eagle L *Hancock* (PH) the next highest total.

Baird's Sandpiper: First, all on 29 Mar: Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (DP), USNWR *Kossuth* (MCK), and 8 at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury* (POR). Most: 80 on 21 Apr at Sandhill L *Woodbury* (BFH). Last: 35 still at USNWR 28 May (MCK) and a loner 31 May at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO).

Pectoral Sandpiper: First: 4 on 18 Mar at Jester P *Polk* (WO). Most: 2,000–4,000 on 17–19 Apr at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CRE). 750 were still at Eagle L *Hancock* 29 May (PH), and the last 3 were reported at Ada Hayden P *Story* 31 May (WO).

Dunlin: First: 29–30 Mar at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (DP, JPa) [record early], and the next was at Lower Morse L *Wright* 10 Apr (SSP). Most: 440 on 12 May at Big Wall L *Wright* (PH), 266 on 13 May at Riverton WA *Fremont* (SJD), and 250 also 13 May at Hawkeye WA (CJC). Last: 20 on 28 May at USNWR *Kossuth* (MCK).

CURLEW SANDPIPER: One: 12 May, Big Wall L *Wright* (PH-photo).

Stilt Sandpiper: First: 1 Apr at Jester P *Polk* (JG, SJD-details) [record early]. The next arrivals weren't until 2 on 22 Apr at Riverton WA *Fremont* (JG). High counts were in the dozens except for 213 on 13 May at Riverton WA *Fremont* (SJD). Last: 30 on 29 May at Eagle L *Hancock* (PH) and a single 31 May at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Only one

this spring: 3 May at Cumming Wetlands *Warren* (JG).

Short-billed Dowitcher: First: 4 on 1 May at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury* (POR). Most: 77 on 13 May at Riverton *Fremont* (SJD) and 75 also on 13 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CJC). Last: 28 May at USNWR *Kossuth* (MCK).

Long-billed Dowitcher: First: 11 Mar at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury* (BFH). Both dowitchers were widely reported this spring, and long-billed was especially numerous, with 234 on 4 May at Big Wall L *Wright* (SSP) and 244 on 13 May at Riverton WA *Fremont* (SJD). The last report was of 2 on 14 May at Cumming Wetlands *Warren* (JG).

Wilson's Snipe: First: 4 Mar in *Lee* (DP). Most: 31 on 9 Apr at Moeckley Pr *Polk* (BE).

American Woodcock: The first "peenting" was reported 3 Mar in *Jefferson* (DCP). Jay Gilliam found 15 displaying at Terra L *Polk* 11 Mar. An adult with 4 young was seen 30 Apr at Badger Creek WA *Madison* (DTH).

Wilson's Phalarope: First: 7 on 3 Apr at Tannery Ponds *Woodbury* (POR). Most: 64 on 3 May at Port Neal Ponds *Woodbury* (POR), 73 on 12 May at New L *Woodbury* (POR), and 284 on 13 May at Riverton WA *Fremont* (SJD). Away from the west, 15 on 1 May in *Dallas* (RIA, PHA), 10 on 4 May at Big Wall L *Wright* (AB), and 16 on 5 and 12 May in *Hardin* (MPr) were the peaks. Last: 27 May at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO) and 28 May at MidAmerican Ponds *Pottawattamie* (DP).

Red-necked Phalarope: First: 2 on 9 May at Tannery Ponds *Woodbury* (POR). Most: 71 (9 males and 62 females) on 13 May at Riverton *Fremont* (SJD) and 21 on 14 May at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury* (POR). They were reported from seven additional counties, with the last on 28 May at USNWR *Kossuth* (MCK).

Franklin's Gull: First: 5 Mar at L Rathbun *Appanoose* (RLC). Small numbers were reported except for 200 on 5 May at L Manawa *Pottawattamie* (LJP, BKP).

BLACK-HEADED GULL: An adult was at Pool 9 *Allamakee* 1 Apr (*RZ) [record early].

Bonaparte's Gull: The first were all on 1 Apr: singles at both Big Wall L *Wright* and Little Clear L *Pocahontas* (SSP, KLP), and 6 with the Black-headed Gull in *Allamakee* (RZ). Peak-numbers norm was 40–60 except for 250 on 13 Apr in *Clay* (SSP). The last 2 were at Silver L *Worth* 21 May (PH).

Ring-billed Gull: Most: 2,400 on 5 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk* (JG) and 500 on 9 Mar at Credit Isl *Scott* (POR).

CALIFORNIA GULL: A single bird was at Saylorville Res *Polk* 2 Mar (*AMJ) [record latest].

Herring Gull: Most: 112 on 17 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk* (JG). Last: 7 May at Coralville Res *Johnson* (DP).

Thayer's Gull: One or 2 first-winter Thayer's frequented the Mississippi R *Scott* until 11 Mar (SMF, JG, CJC, POR), and one was still at Pool 15 on 5 Apr (SMF). Single adults were found in the area 10 Mar (POR) and 26 Mar (SMF). Inland, first-winter birds were at Red Rock Res *Marion* 11 Mar (JG), and at Saylorville Res *Polk* 16 Mar (PEL) and 28 Mar (JG). An adult was at Red Rock Res 17 Mar (PEL).

ICELAND GULL: Capping a banner winter season for this species, the adult found 26 Feb was still at Credit Isl *Scott* 3 Mar (*AMJ, Jim Forde-photo), a 1st-winter was also at Credit Isl 2–3 Mar (SMF-photo, *AMJ, Jim Forde-photo), and a different 1st-winter was at L&D 15 *Scott* 8 and 24–28 Mar (SMF-photo) [record latest].

Lesser Black-backed Gull: All: the last 1st-winter from the winter season at Credit Isl *Scott* was seen 9 Mar (SMF), an adult could be found in *Scott* until 28 Mar (SMF), an adult 1 Apr at L Rathbun

Appanoose (RLC), a 1st-winter 29 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (SJD-photo) [second latest], and perhaps the same bird at Little Wall L *Hamilton* on 4 May (AB-details) [record latest].

Glaucous Gull: The last adult at Credit Isl *Scott* was seen 8 Mar (SMF), while single 1st-winter birds could be found until 7 Apr (SMF) [ties second latest].

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL: The 2nd-winter from the winter season was relocated at Credit Isl *Scott* 8 Mar (*SMF) [third latest]. Up to 4 first-winter birds could be found in *Scott* in early March, the last hanging on until 7 Apr (SMF) [second latest].

Caspian Tern: First: 16 Apr at Coralville Res *Johnson* (DP) [second earliest], followed by 26 Apr at L Rathbun *Appanoose* (RLC). Most: 64 on 12 May at Saylorville Res *Polk* (SJD). Last: 3 on 29 May near Trumbull L *Clay* (LAS).

Common Tern: First: 2 on 1 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (JLF). One to 4 were reported from ten additional locations. The last 4 were at Clear L *Cerro Gordo* for the IOU spring meeting 20–21 May (PH).

Forster's Tern: First: 2 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (DTh-details) [record early]. Most: 64 were reported from that location 3 May (SJD). The last 30 were still at Ada Hayden P *Story* 19 May (WO).

Least Tern: All: 4 on 28 May at MidAmerican Ponds *Pottawattamie* (DP) and 2 on 31 May at Port Neal Ponds *Woodbury* (POR).

Black Tern: First: 4 on 26 Apr at Eagle L *Hancock* (RGo) [third earliest]. Most: 100 on 12 May at New L *Woodbury* (POR) and 325 on 25 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CRE).

Eurasian Collared-Dove: They were reported from Wayne, Warren, Lee, *Cerro Gordo*, *Marion*, *Decatur*, *Appanoose*, *Hamilton*, *Linn*, *Page*, *Fremont*, *Audubon*, *Crawford*, *Montgomery*, *Wright*, *Calhoun*, and *Kossuth* (m.ob.).

Black-billed Cuckoo: First: 10 May at Bellevue SP *Jackson* (CLW) and 15 May at Indian Lake P *Van Buren* (JWR). Others were at Parker's Woods *Cerro Gordo* 20 May (DP, MPr, SSP, KLP), in *Decatur* 26 May (NJM), and at Hinton *Plymouth* 30 May (BFH).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: First: 9 May at both Brookside P *Story* (SSP) and Parker's Woods *Cerro Gordo* (RGo). They arrived 28–30 May in *Dallas*, *Poweshiek*, *Jefferson*, and *Sioux* (JB, BVa, DCP, JVD).

Barn Owl: The only report was of a migrant at Brown's L *Woodbury* 17 Apr (BFH).

Snowy Owl: An immature female and an adult male were near Blairsburg *Hamilton* until 16 Mar (m.ob.). An adult male was found by Carol Schutte 25 Apr at Clear Lake *Cerro Gordo* (PH-photo) [second latest].

Long-eared Owl: All: 7 on 4 Mar at Medicine Creek WA *Wayne* (AB), 2 on 4 Mar at Worth County P (RGo), 4 on 5 Mar at L Rathbun *Appanoose* (RLC), and 2 on 9 Mar near Rockford *Floyd* (RGo).

Short-eared Owl: One or 2 were seen at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury* 5 Mar until 29 Apr (POR, BFH). The other report was of 2 at Dean *Appanoose* 8 Apr (RLC).

Northern Saw-whet Owl: Two reports: 1 Mar at Grammer Grove *Marshall* (MPr) and 16 Mar at Ledges SP *Boone* (PEL).

Common Nighthawk: First: 5 May in *Appanoose* (RLC) and 3 on 9 May at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (JPa).

Chuck-will's-widow: One was heard at the usual location near Waubonsie SP *Fremont* 13 May (SJD).

Whip-poor-will: First: 13 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM). One visited John Van Dyk's yard in Sioux Center *Sioux* 18 Apr and another stopped at Carolyn Fischer's yard *Cerro Gordo* 8 May.

Chimney Swift: First: 2 on 14 Apr at Corydon *Wayne* (AB) and 15 Apr at Burlington *Des Moines* (CF). Most: 160 on 28 Apr at Guttenberg *Clayton* (DAK).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: First: 22 Apr at Glidden *Carroll* (*VW) [second earliest].

Red-headed Woodpecker: Reported in small numbers from eleven counties.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: One in *Cass* 4 Mar (MAP) was a wintering bird, while the first migrants began pouring in 1 Apr in *Appanoose* (RLC) and *Warren* (JG). Courting pairs were seen in *Hancock*, *Woodbury*, and *Clay* (JB, PH, MPr, AMJ, SSP, KLP, GLV, LAS).

Northern Flicker: A female Red-shafted Flicker was at Wildin Pr *Kossuth* 12 Apr (MCK).

Pileated Woodpecker: Pileated Woodpeckers were widely reported from the eastern half of the state, with a pair at Peterson *Clay* the only western homesteaders this spring (LAS).

Olive-sided Flycatcher: First: 9 May at Brookside P *Story* (KLP, SSP). Late migrants were still moving 28–29 May in *Benton*, *Polk*, and *Kossuth* (CJC, DTh, MCK).

Eastern Wood-Pewee: First: 2 on 3 May in *Decatur* (JRL), and the next was 14 May at Woodland Mounds *Warren* (JG).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: First: 19 May at Brookside P *Story* (SSP), and 20 May at both Parker's Woods *Cerro Gordo* (SSP, KLP) and Eagle L *Hancock* (RGo). One to 3 were found 21–28 May at Pilot Knob SP *Hancock*, Hickory Hill P *Johnson*, Liscomb *Marshall*, and Algona *Kossuth* (PH, DC, JPa, MPr, MCK).

Acadian Flycatcher: First: 6 May at Croton Unit *Lee* (CRE) and 7 May at Donnellson Unit *Lee* (CRE). Also found at Beam Woods *Jones* (CRE), Farmington Unit *Lee* (CRE), Cairo Woods *Louisa* (CJC), Coralville Res *Johnson* (CRE), and Brown's Woods *Polk* (AB).

Alder Flycatcher: The first wasn't heard until 21 May at Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (PH). Seventeen were reported 24–29 May from ten locations.

Willow Flycatcher: First: 10 May at Polk City WA *Polk* (DTh). The most were 4 on 28 May at Brenton Arboretum *Dallas* (JB).

Least Flycatcher: First: 1 May at Swan L *Johnson* (JPa). Most: 8 on 20 May at Parker's Woods *Cerro Gordo* (SSP, KLP). Last: 2 on 24 May at Brookside P *Story* (SSP).

Eastern Phoebe: First, all on 11 Mar: near Fairfield *Jefferson* (DCP), 8 around L Rathbun *Appanoose* (RLC), and 3 in *Decatur* (JRL) [second and third earliest].

Great Crested Flycatcher: First: 28 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM) and 29 Apr in *Linn* (DP).

Western Kingbird: First: 21 May at the Capitol Complex in Des Moines (RIA, PHA). Western Kingbirds in the east were found 23 May at Panicum Pr *Worth* (PH) and 28 May in *Cerro Gordo* (Jack Van den Heuvel-photo fide RGo).

Eastern Kingbird: First: 19 Apr in *Appanoose* (RLC) [third earliest] and 20 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER: One was found by Steve Matherly 29 Apr in *Fremont* while visiting from Houston, TX (details).

Loggerhead Shrike: First: 5 Mar in *Appanoose* (RLC). Reports came from nineteen counties southwest from a *Johnson* (nest-RD), *Tama*, *Hancock* (nest-AB, PH) line.

Northern Shrike: All: 5, 19 Mar at Pleasant Creek RA *Linn* (BSc), 11 Mar in *Delaware* (BSc), and 18 Mar at Terra L *Polk* (WO).

White-eyed Vireo: First: 22 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM) and 23 Apr at Chichaqua WA *Polk* (DTh). Singles were also found in *Warren*, *Lee*, *Jefferson*, *Appanoose*, *Boone*, *Johnson*, *Marshall*, *Louisa*, and 3 were at Squaw Creek P *Linn* 29 May (BSc).

Bell's Vireo: First: 4 May at West Des Moines (JB) and 5 May along the Summer-set Trail *Warren* (RTr). Most: 12 on 31 May at Brown's L *Woodbury* (GLV).

Yellow-throated Vireo: First: 23 Apr at L Ahquabi *Warren* (JG) and 26 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM).

Blue-headed Vireo: First: 1 May at both Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CJC) and Diamond L *Poweshiek* (MPR). Most: 8 on 9 May at Brookside P *Story* (KLP, SSP), where the last occurred 24 May (SSP).

Warbling Vireo: First: 19 Apr in *Jefferson* (DCP-details) [second earliest], 21 Apr at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (JPa), and 22 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM).

Philadelphia Vireo: First: 13 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CRE). Peaks of 4 were observed 19 May at a bird bath in *Pottawattamie* (DD) and 20 May at Parker's Woods *Cerro Gordo* (SSP, KLP). Last: 21 May at Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (JB, PH, KLP, SSP).

Red-eyed Vireo: First: 1 May at Diamond L *Poweshiek* (MPR).

BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE: Two were near Westfield *Plymouth* 15 May (DB).

Horned Lark: Young capable of short flight were being fed 24 Apr at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (JPa).

Purple Martin: First: 4 on 5 May at Grimes *Polk* (JB) and 4 on 6 May in *Warren* (JG). The largest group reported was 9 on 27 Apr at Banner WA *Warren* (RTr).

Tree Swallow: First: 3 on 12 Mar at Heron Bend *Lee* (LAD) [record early].

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: First: 6 Apr at Diamond L *Poweshiek* (MPR) and 8 Apr in *Jefferson* (DCP). Most: 11 on 18 Apr at Maquoketa Caves SP *Jackson* (CLW).

Bank Swallow: First: 3 on 22 Apr at Walnut Woods SP *Polk* (POR). Most: 20 on 1 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CJC).

Cliff Swallow: First: 6 on 14 Apr at Iowa City *Johnson* (MHB) and a single 14 May at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO).

Barn Swallow: First: 5 Apr in *Jefferson* (DCP) and 7 Apr at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: In contrast with 2005's invasion, there were only seven reports of single birds throughout the season, the last on 12 May at *Ames Story* (Dave Edwards fide HZ).

Brown Creeper: The last report: 22 Apr at Walnut Woods SP *Polk* (POR).

Carolina Wren: Reported south from a *Taylor, Guthrie, Story, Muscatine* line, except for 2 on 28 Apr in *Winneshiek* (Mara Erickson-photo).

Bewick's Wren: A pair frequented the Livingston property in *Decatur* 8–22 Apr (*JRL), and the perennial pair near Croton Unit *Lee* was reported 15 May (DP, CRE).

House Wren: First: 11 Apr at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (JPa).

Winter Wren: One at Burlington *Des Moines* 4 Mar could have wintered nearby, so the first migrant may have been 10 Mar at Pine Lake SP *Hardin* (MPr). Most: 7 on 8 Apr at Union Grove SP *Tama* (MPr). Last: 2 and 17 May at A.A.Call SP *Kossuth* (MCK).

Sedge Wren: First: 24 Apr at Otter Creek M *Tama* (MPr) [second earliest] and 4 on 25 Apr at Chichaqua WA *Polk* (SSP, KLP) [ties third earliest].

Marsh Wren: First: 2 on 16 Apr at Chichaqua WA *Polk* (SSP, KLP) and 16 Apr at Coralville Res *Johnson* (CRE).

Golden-crowned Kinglet: First: 5 on 1 Apr at L Rathbun *Appanoose* (RLC) and 1 Apr in *Jefferson* (DCP). Most: 20 on 5 Apr at Coralville Res *Johnson* (CJC). The last reported was 22 Apr at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (CJC).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: First: 2 on 2 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (RLC) and 2 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM). Eighteen on 20 May at Parker's Woods *Cerro Gordo* were late (SSP, KLP), and 6 on 21 May at Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (KLP) were the last.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: First: 10 on 15 Apr at Sharon Bluffs SP *Appanoose* (RLC) and 2 on 15 Apr in *Story* (SSP, KLP).

Veery: First: 3 May in *Decatur* (JRL-

details). At least 20 individuals were reported from ten counties.

Gray-checked Thrush: First, all on 3 May: Maynes Grove P *Franklin* (MPr), Algona *Kossuth* (MCK), and 27 detected by flight calls in pre-dawn hours over *Ames Story* (SSP-details). More than 30 other individuals were reported from across the state until the last at Algona *Kossuth* 24 May (MCK).

Swainson's Thrush: First: 28 Apr at Sioux Center *Sioux* (JVD-details) and 30 Apr at Brookside P *Story* (SSP, KLP). Most: 98 passed over *Ames Story* in pre-dawn waves 3 May (SSP-details), while 20–30 were detected on land 7 May at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury* (POR), 9 May at Brookside P (KLP, SSP), and 14 May at Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (PH). Last: 9 on 26 May at Brookside P (SSP, KLP).

Hermit Thrush: First: 25 Mar at Grammer Grove *Marshall* (MPr). Most: 10 on 4 Apr at A.A. Call SP *Kossuth* (MCK). Last: 12 May at Sioux Center *Sioux* (JVD-details) [ties third latest] and 19 May at East Twin L *Hancock* (AB-photo) [record latest].

Wood Thrush: First: 6 on 29 Apr at L Rathbun *Appanoose* (RLC). Most: 9 on 15 May at Nine Eagles SP *Decatur* (SSP).

American Robin: A "calico" partial albino robin returned to the same Algona neighborhood for the third straight year (MCK).

Gray Catbird: One seen 3 Mar at Iowa City *Johnson* (JPa-details) was reportedly seen in late Jan (IA-Bird post), thereby successfully overwintering. The earliest arrival was 26 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM). Eleven were counted 22 May at Altoona *Polk* (TNG).

Northern Mockingbird: In the west, they were found 5 May in *Sac* (RTh) and 7 May in *Guthrie* (RTh); otherwise, reports were south and east from 17 Apr in *Story* (KLP) and 26 Apr in *Hardin* (DJN). Most: 9 on 26 May in *Decatur* (NJM).

Brown Thrasher: First: 31 Mar in *De-*

catur (JRL, NJM) and 1 Apr in Ann Johnson's yard Warren.

American Pipit: First: 11 Mar near Anderson L *Hamilton* (KLP) and 26 Mar at Willow Slough Mills (JSt). Most: 20 on 28 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (AB). Last: 4 on 19 May at Myre Slough *Winnebago* (AB) [ties second latest].

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT: One was documented 22 Apr in *Fremont* after extensive and determined searching (*SJD, *AB, JG-photo).

Blue-winged Warbler: First: 24 Apr at Croton Unit *Lee* (CF) and 28 Apr at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CJC). The most were reported from *Lee*: 6 on 7 May at Donnellson Unit and 4 on 21 May at Farmington Unit (CRE).

Golden-winged Warbler: First: 1 May at Swan L *Johnson* (JPa) and 2 May in *Boone* (SJD). One to 4 birds were commonly reported, with the last on 21 May at Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (PH) and 2 on 21 May at Burr Oak *Winneshiek* (DC).

Tennessee Warbler: First: 1 May in *Decatur* (JRL) and 2 on 1 May at Brookside P *Story* (SSP). Most: 39 on 13 May at L Macbride *Johnson* (CRE). Last: 28 May at Algona *Kossuth* (MCK).

Orange-crowned Warbler: First: 2 on 15 Apr at Sedan Bottoms *Appanoose* (RLC) and 16 Apr at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (JPa). Most: 6 on both 3 May at Algona *Kossuth* (MCK) and 9 May at Brookside P *Story* (KLP, SSP). Last: 21 May at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO).

Nashville Warbler: First: an early bird 14 Apr at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (JPa-details) [record early] was not followed until 28 Apr at Pine Lake SP *Hardin* (MPr). Most: 11 on 4 May in *Boone* (SJD), 12 on 9 May at Brookside P *Story* (SSP, KLP), and 10 on 18 May at Hanging Rock Woods *Johnson* (CRE). Last: 31 May at Brookside P (SSP).

Northern Parula: First: 13 Apr at Sycamore Access *Polk* (JG), 14 Apr in *Boone*

(SJD), and 12 were at Sharon Bluffs SP *Appanoose* by 15 Apr (RLC). Most: 14 were at L Ahquabi SP Warren 23 Apr (AB).

Yellow Warbler: First: 1 May at both Swan L *Johnson* (JPa) and Jester P *Polk* (AB).

Chestnut-sided Warbler: First: 3 May in *Decatur* (NJM) and 4 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (JPa). Most: 8 on 20 May at Parker's Woods *Cerro Gordo* (KLP, SSP), 8 on 20 May at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (CRE), and 9 on 21 May at Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (SSP, KLP). Last migrant: 26 May at Ames *Story* (SSP).

Magnolia Warbler: First: 6 May in *Poweshiek* (BVa). Most: 7 on 20 May at Parker's Woods *Cerro Gordo* (SSP, KLP) and 7 on 21 May at Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (KLP). Last: 26 May in *Cerro Gordo*, *Kossuth*, *Story*, and *Johnson* (PH, MCK, SSP, KLP, AB).

Cape May Warbler: First: 6 May at Brookside P *Story* (SSP) and 3 on 7 May at Urbandale *Polk* (BE). Most: 7 on 21 May at Deer Valley Lodge *Cerro Gordo* (SSP, KLP, JB), with up to 8 in the same tree performing for IOU Spring Meeting attendees. Last: 25 May in *Worth* (PH) and 26 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (AB).

Black-throated Blue Warbler: All: a male 13–14 May at Ledges SP *Boone* (NAO) and a male 21 May at Jester P *Polk* (BE-details) [ties second latest].

Yellow-rumped Warbler: First: 2 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM). Most: 50 on 23 Apr at L Rathbun *Appanoose* (RLC). A male Audubon's Warbler was seen 15 May at Nine Eagles SP *Decatur* (*SSP, *JRL). Last: 26 May at Elk Creek M *Worth* (PH).

Black-throated Green Warbler: First: 25 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM). Most: 6 on 18 May at Hanging Rock Woods *Johnson* (CRE). Last: 22 May at Two Waters WA *Worth* (PH).

Blackburnian Warbler: First: 7 May at Donnellson Unit *Lee* (CRE). Most: 5 on 18

May at Hanging Rock Woods *Johnson* (CRE) and 5 on 20 May at Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (PH). Last: 26 May at Paul Hertzels yard *Cerro Gordo*.

Yellow-throated Warbler: First: 8 Apr at Ledges SP *Boone* (DJN). One or two were also reported from *Van Buren*, *Polk*, *Johnson*, *Warren*, *Story*, 21 Apr–30 May at Pine Lake SP *Hardin* (MPr), 28 Apr at Lansing *Allamakee* (FL), 29 Apr at Pike's Peak SP *Clayton* (DAk), and 8 May at Eagle Point P *Dubuque* (CLW).

Pine Warbler: All: 18 Apr at Maquoketa Caves *Jackson* (CLW), 2 seen and 2 more heard at Lansing *Allamakee* 22 Apr (FL-details), and a singing male 15 May at Donnellson Unit *Lee* (CRE, DP).

Prairie Warbler: Jim Forde found a male singing 20 May at Pleasant Creek RA *Benton/Linn*. The bird remained on territory, and was seen by many into June.

Palm Warbler: First: 20 Apr at L Meyer *Winneshiek* (Larry Reis fide DC) and 22 Apr in *Worth* (RGo). Most: 16 on 9 May at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO). Last: 21 May at both Bailey's Ford P *Delaware* (BSc) and Lime Creek NC *Cerro Gordo* (MPr).

Bay-breasted Warbler: First: 29 Apr at Brookside P *Story* (SSP), then not until 7 May at Donnellson Unit *Lee* (CRE). Most: 6 on 20 May at Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (PH). Last: 22 May at Silver L *Worth* (RGo) and at Algona *Kossuth* (MCK).

Blackpoll Warbler: First: 28 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM), followed by 6 May at Brookside P *Story* (SSP) and 3 on 6 May at Sharon Bluffs SP *Appanoose* (RLC). Most: 14 on 9 May at Brookside P (KLP, SSP). Last: 26 May at Liscomb *Marshall* (MPr) and 2 on 26 May at Algona *Kossuth* (MCK).

Cerulean Warbler: First: 26–27 Apr at Macbride RA *Johnson* (DP, JPa). One to 3 were reported from sixteen additional locations SE of a *Boone*, *Hardin*, *Delaware* line, except for 20 May at Mason City *Cerro Gordo* (KLP, SSP).

Black-and-white Warbler: First: 22 Apr at Hacklebarney Woods *Montgomery* (JG, AB, SJD), then not until 1 May at Parker's Woods *Cerro Gordo* (RGo) and 1 May at Brookside P *Story* (SSP, KLP). Most: 10 on 9 May at Brookside P (KLP, SSP) and 7 on 20 May at Parker's Woods (SSP, KLP). Last: a singing male 30 May at Brown's Woods *Polk* (AB).

American Redstart: First: 2 on 3 May at Liscomb *Marshall* (MPr). Twenty-eight were counted around L Macbride *Johnson* 13 May (CRE).

Prothonotary Warbler: First: 30 Apr at Beaver Bottoms Wetland *Dallas* (BE), then 6 May at Cedar Rapids *Linn* (BSc). They still nest along the East Fork Des Moines R in *Kossuth* (MCK).

Worm-eating Warbler: All: One or 2 were found as usual at Croton Unit *Lee* (CRE, DP, CF). A heard-only bird was reported 22 May at Hogsback WA *Winnebago* (CJF). One at Squaw Creek P *Linn* was both heard and seen 29 May (BSc).

Ovenbird: First: 2 on 23 Apr at L Ahquabi SP *Warren* (POR), 24 Apr at Croton Unit *Lee* (CF), and 2 on 25 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM). Most: 20 on 13 May at Hanging Rock Woods *Johnson* (CJC).

Northern Waterthrush: First: 25 Apr at Chichaqua WA *Polk* (SSP). Most: 6 on 13 May at both L Macbride *Johnson* (CRE) and Brookside P *Story* (RLC). Last: 21 May at Clear L *Cerro Gordo* (MPr), Eagle L *Hancock* (DP), and Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (SSP, KLP).

Louisiana Waterthrush: First: 7 Apr at Lacey-Keosauqua SP *Van Buren* (CF) and 8 Apr at Ledges SP *Boone* (DJN). They were seen in seven counties east and south from *Boone*, plus 23 Apr–15 May at Decorah *Winneshiek* (DC).

Kentucky Warbler: First: 24 Apr at both Croton Unit *Lee* (CF) and Lacey-Keosauqua SP *Van Buren* (JLF) [both tie record early], followed by 26 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM)

[ties second early]. They were reported from 10 counties south and east from 30 Apr in *Story* (KLP, SSP). Singing males were also found 20 May at both Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (PH, RIA, PHA) and Deer Valley Lodge *Cerro Gordo* (KLP, DCH).

Connecticut Warbler: All: 20 May at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (CRE), 21 May at Parker's Woods *Cerro Gordo* (AMJ, MPr), 24–26 May at Brookside P *Story* (SSP, KLP), 26–27 May at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (AB, JG), and 26 May at Hickory Hill P (JPa).

Mourning Warbler: First: 3 on 15 May at Nine Eagles SP *Decatur* (SSP, JRL). The highest count was actually from the west: 7 on 23 May at Little Sioux WA *Clay* (LAS). Last: 30 May at Silver L *Worth* (RGo).

Common Yellowthroat: First: 19 Apr in *Jefferson* (DCP) [record early]. The next report wasn't until 28 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM).

Hooded Warbler: First: 23 Apr at L Ahquabi SP *Warren* (JG, AB, POR) and 24 Apr at Donnellson Unit *Lee* (CF). One at Iowa City *Johnson* 1 May (RD) was outside the normal SE Iowa range, as was 6 May in *Cerro Gordo* (Bruce Marzinski fide RGo). Wandering birds showed up later at L Macbride *Johnson* 15 May (JLF), Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* 17 May (PH), and Eagle L *Hancock* 20 May (RGo).

Wilson's Warbler: First: 29 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (DTh). Most: 5 on 20 May at Parker's Woods *Cerro Gordo* (SSP, KLP). Last, all on 22 May: Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO), Silver L *Worth* (RGo), and 2 at Diamond L *Poweshiek* (MPr).

Canada Warbler: First: 14 May at L Ahquabi SP *Warren* (JB). Most: 6 on 22 May at Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (DC). Last: 28 May at Parker's Woods *Cerro Gordo* (RGo).

Yellow-breasted Chat: First: 2 May at Croton Unit *Lee* (JLF). One or 2 were found 7 May at Donnellson Unit *Lee* (CRE), 24 May at Summerset Trail *Warren* (RTTr), 28 May at the Swan area *Marion* (RTTr), 28 May

at Pleasant Creek RA *Linn* (CJC), and 29 May at Cairo Woods *Louisa* (CRE). The farthest northwest was along the Des Moines R *Boone* 4 May (SJD).

Summer Tanager: First: 20 Apr in *Marion* (MCD-details) [ties second earliest]. The next was 2 May at Lacey-Keosauqua SP *Van Buren* (JLF, THK). Most: 5 on 6 May at Sand Creek WA *Ringgold* (AMJ). A pair nesting at Brown's Woods *Polk* were the farthest northwest (m.ob.) except for a male seen 25 May along the Des Moines R at Estherville *Emmet* (HWW).

Scarlet Tanager: First: 30 Apr in *Poweshiek* (BVa). An orange variant male was at Brookside P *Story* 10 May (HZ). Most: 5 on 21 May at Farmington Unit *Lee* (CRE).

Spotted Towhee: All: 6 May at Two Waters WA *Worth* (PH-photo), and 2 on 7 May at Little Sioux WA *Clay* (LAS).

Eastern Towhee: First, and also the most reported: 6 on 8 Apr at Dean *Appanoose* (RLC).

American Tree Sparrow: Most: 130 on 19 Mar at Big M *Butler* (KLP, SSP). Last: 14 Apr at Brenton Arboretum *Dallas* (JB).

Chipping Sparrow: The first was very early: 5 Mar at Long Grove *Scott* (SF). Reinforcements didn't arrive until 4 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM).

Clay-colored Sparrow: First: 2 on 28 Apr at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO) and 29 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (JG). Most: 12 on 3 May at Algona *Kossuth* (MCK), but usually 1 or 2 were reported from eastern Iowa locations. Oddly, this species went unreported from the west. Late singers were at USNWR *Kossuth* 24 May (MCK) and at New Wine P *Dubuque* 29 May (DAK).

Field Sparrow: First: 1 Apr in *Muscatine* (DP) and 6 on 1 Apr at L Rathbun *Appanoose* (RLC).

Vesper Sparrow: First: 2 on 31 Mar at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO), 1 Apr in *Wright*

(KLP, SSP), and 2 on 1 Apr at Brenton Arborum *Dallas* (JB).

Lark Sparrow: First: 2 on 15 Apr at Pinchey Bottoms *Marion* (JG) and 4 on 18 Apr in *Wayne* (DT). Most: 11 on 29 Apr at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury* (POR), 16 on 30 Apr at Sedan Bottoms *Appanoose* (RLC), and 26 on 13 May in *Decatur* (NJM).

Savannah Sparrow: First: 5 Mar at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO) and 5 Mar at L Rathbun *Appanoose* (RLC) [both tie second earliest], and 14 Mar in *Decatur* (JRL) [third earliest]. Most: 100 on 22 Apr in *Fremont* while hunting Sprague's Pipits (JG).

Grasshopper Sparrow: First: 3 on 7 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM) [record early], followed by 13 Apr in *Decatur* (JRL) and 2 also on 13 Apr at Lacey-Keosauqua *Van Buren* (JWR). Most: 76 were buzzing around *Decatur* 26 May (NJM).

Henslow's Sparrow: First: 4 Apr in *Decatur* (JRL) [third earliest] and 7 Apr at Lacey-Keosauqua SP *Van Buren* (CF). They were reported from fifteen additional counties across the eastern two-thirds of the state, plus 2 on 13 May in *Fremont* (SJD). Most: 15 on 25 Apr and 3 May at Chichaqua WA *Polk* (SSP, KLP) and 10 on 26 May at Red Feather Pr *Polk* (DTh).

Le Conte's Sparrow: First and most: 12 on 22 Apr in *Fremont* (JG, AB, SJD). One or 2 were found in six additional counties, with the last 2 on 14 May in *Decatur* (JRL, NJM).

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow: All: 20 May at Ketelsen Greenwing M *Story* (NAO), 26 May at Doolittle Pr *Story* (SSP), and 29 May at Meredith M *Hancock* (PH) [ties third latest].

Fox Sparrow: The first were reported 11 Mar in *Johnson*, *Appanoose*, *Worth*, and *Jefferson* (BSc, RLC, PH, DCP). Most: 9 on 9 Apr at Chichaqua WA *Polk* (BE).

Song Sparrow: Like Eastern Phoebe and Fox Sparrow, the first reports of the season came from Saturday 11 Mar: in

Wright, *Jackson*, and *Appanoose* (SSP, KLP, CLW, RLC).

Lincoln's Sparrow: The first report was from the north: 18 Mar at Trumbull L *Clay* (LAS). The next was 8 Apr at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO). Most: 12 on 3 May at Algona *Kossuth* (MCK). Last: 2 on 20 May at Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (PH).

Swamp Sparrow: First: 6 on 1 Apr in *Jefferson* (DCP).

White-throated Sparrow: The last two, as might be guessed, were found 21 May at Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (KLP, SSP).

Harris's Sparrow: First: 2 Mar at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO) and 3 on 11 Mar in *Warren* (JG). There were several Mar and Apr reports this year, with a few from the east. Most: 32 on 3 May and 50 on 5 May at Algona *Kossuth* (MCK)- and all but a few of these were gone the next morning. Last: 23 May at Pleasant Creek RA *Linn* (BSc).

White-crowned Sparrow: Similar migration to Harris's Sparrow, but without the western component. First: 3 on 12 Mar at Cone M *Louisa* (POR). Most: 10 on 29 Apr at L Rathbun *Appanoose* (RLC). The last didn't make it to the IOU Spring Meeting: 2 on 18 May at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO).

Dark-eyed Junco: Only one junco remained into May: 1 May at Liscomb *Marshall* (MPR).

Lapland Longspur: Flocks of 50–200 through Mar and Apr were the norm. Last: 200 flying north near Marcus *Cherokee* 1 May (JVD-details) [third latest]

Smith's Longspur: Migrant Smith's Longspurs were widely found this spring. First: 3 on 5 Mar near L Rathbun *Appanoose* (RLC), followed by two more in *Appanoose* 20 Mar (TNJ). The first for *Decatur* were 200 on 9–10 Mar (*JRL, NJM). Beginning with 6 on 11 Apr, numbers increased in *Kossuth* until a total of 120 were found 23 Apr at three locations, each separated from the next by ten miles (MCK, PH). Ten to thirty Smith's visited *Johnson* 15–16 Apr

(CJC, CRE, DP). Twenty-four were discovered at Lower Morse L *Wright* 19 Apr (SSP), and a single was still at that location 22 Apr (WO). Finally, 3 flushed at Union Hills BCA *Cerro Gordo* 22 Apr (RGo).

Snow Bunting: The only report: 3 perched on a wire 17 Mar at Hanlontown M *Worth* (PH-photo).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: First: 24 Apr in *Jefferson* (DCP), and 28 Apr in both *Decatur* (NJM) and *Cerro Gordo* (CJF).

Blue Grosbeak: The far out-of-range first male: 9 May at Yellow River F *Allamakee* (RZ-details). Others away from their usual haunts were: 21 May at Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (PH), 23–24 May at Shenandoah *Page* (Marie Tiemann), and 27 May at Ocheyedan WA *Clay* (LAS).

Indigo Bunting: First: 3 May at Grammer Grove *Marshall* (MPr) and 3 May in *Decatur* (NJM).

PAINTED BUNTING: The most famous and photogenic bird of the season was found 7 May by the Pattersons in their home patch, Brookside P *Story* (*SSP, *HZ, *JJD, *AMJ, *DoP, *CJC, SJD, JG, KN, and JES-photos). It remained through the season to be enjoyed by many.

Dickcissel: First: 2 May in *Boone* (SJD), followed by 3 May in *Decatur* and at Chichaqua WA *Polk* (SSP). None were present 7 May at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury*, but more than 34 were there the next day (POR).

Bobolink: First: 24 Apr in *Decatur* (NJM) [ties second earliest] and 27 Apr in *Story* (Cindy Hildebrand fide SSP).

Eastern Meadowlark: The first singing bird was reported 4 Mar at Brenton Arboretum *Dallas* (JB). An uncommon bird for the area, one was at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury* 3 May (POR).

Western Meadowlark: Many were singing around L Rathbun *Appanoose* 5 Mar (RLC). Ann Johnson remarked that Western Meadowlarks in *Warren* have been largely

replaced by Easterns during the past 20 years.

Yellow-headed Blackbird: Arrived very early this spring: a male 11 Mar at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury* (BFH) [record early], 4 on 20 Mar in *Story* (Mike Meetz fide HZ) [second earliest], and 25 Mar at Little Wall L *Hamilton* (WO). 95% of a flock of 250 on 13 May in *Cherokee* were females (DB).

Rusty Blackbird: A few large flocks were found: 125 on 14 Mar at Gordon's M *Hamilton* (SSP), 275 on 19 Mar at Big M *Butler* (KLP, SSP), and 115 on 25 Mar at Big M (SSP, KLP). Other reports generally numbered less than 25 birds. Last: 20 on 13 Apr at Pickerel L *Clay* (SSP).

Brewer's Blackbird: All: 6 on 21 Mar in *Winnebago* (CJF), 26 Mar in *Ringgold* (DTh), 6 on 31 Mar in *Clayton* (DAK), 10 on 5 Apr at Kellerton Grasslands BCA *Ringgold* (MPr), 2 on 6 Apr at Hanlontown M *Worth* (PH), and 3 on 1 May in *Dallas* (RIA, PHA).

Great-tailed Grackle: Other than 45 flying over Des Moines 31 Mar (AB), 1–13 were reported from *Woodbury*, *Warren*, *Freemont*, *Hamilton*, *Kossuth*, *Hancock*, *Tama*, *Cherokee*, *Boone*, *Emmet*, and *Cerro Gordo*.

Orchard Oriole: First: 25 Apr in *Jefferson* (DCP-details) [ties third earliest] and 29 Apr at Red Feather Pr *Polk* (DTh). None were reported from the western third of the state, surely an artifact of the reporting process.

Baltimore Oriole: First: 25 Apr in both *Jefferson* (DCP) and *Decatur* (NJM).

Purple Finch: Most: 9 on 10 Mar at Springbrook SP *Guthrie* (DTh). None were reported from May.

White-winged Crossbill: A lone female was at Fairmount Cemetery *Scott* 8 Mar (WMZ).

Common Redpoll: One at Bacon Creek P *Woodbury* 22 Mar was a lifer for Paul Roisen.

Pine Siskin: All: 19 Mar and 7 Apr at Fairmount Cemetery *Scott* (WMZ), 2 on 28 Mar at Algona *Kossuth* (MCK), and 4 May at Carolyn Fischer's yard *Cerro Gordo*.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow: Their fall from noteworthy status is evident; only two reports were received: 3 on 12 Mar at Cone M *Louisa* (POR) and 4 on 16 Mar at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (JPa).

COMMENT

Thanks to everyone who contributed their finds to this spring's database. We are all more knowledgeable birders by the sharing of your efforts, and more information is now available for making decisions regarding the conservation of Iowa's avifauna.

Those of us with an interest in the distribution and migration of Iowa birds sometimes forget that the field reports we produce are only part of the big picture of an entire season in Iowa. Even with more than 4,000 individual bird sightings entered into the database this spring, an analysis of the numbers shows that this summary is still rather small, or at least skewed. Seventeen of the following eighty-two contributors accounted for 75% of this season's records. Spatially, 70% of the sightings were reported from thirteen counties in three main areas that closely coincided with organized county Big Year attempts: Woodbury in the west, Linn and Johnson in the east, and a north/south swath from Kossuth/Hancock/Cerro Gordo through Wright, Hamilton, Story, Polk, Warren, and Decatur/Appanoose.

The records are interesting temporally as well, especially when considering early arriving birds. As expected, the two days that produced the most submitted bird records were 20–21 May, the weekend of the IOU Spring Meeting, with 200 and 162 reports. Of the next eleven “busiest” days, providing 92–154 records each, six of those days were Saturdays, an indication of how strongly our “knowledge” of a season's bird activity is actually linked to birders' schedules, not the birds' schedule. Twenty-five percent of the “First of the Year” reports and 25% of the new early arrival dates came from Saturdays! As an example of how weather and schedule affect bird reports, consider the fourth “busiest” day of the spring, with 133 submitted records: March 11, 2006. Who would have guessed that 11 March in Iowa would be so birdy? It was, however, a Saturday, and one that came at the end of an extended warm spell. It was 79 degrees in Burlington and 62 in Des Moines, and birders were thrilled to get out and enjoy it. On 11 March they found, among others, peak numbers of many diving ducks on the Mississippi River, the first Long-billed Dowitcher, many Woodcock, Thayer's Gulls, early Eastern Phoebe, a Northern Shrike, the first American Pipit, the first Fox and Song Sparrows, and a record early male Yellow-headed Blackbird. Had 11 March been cold and blustery with snow, or not fallen on a Saturday, our bird record would look quite different.

LITERATURE CITED

- Cecil, R. 2006. Field reports — winter 2005–2006. *Iowa Bird Life* 76: 87–96.
Jonsén, N. et al. 2006. Rapid advance of spring arrival dates in long-distance migratory birds. *Science* 312:1959–1961.

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*Garganey, New Lake, Woodbury, 7 April 2006.
 Photograph by Paul Roisen, Sioux City, IA.*



*Red-throated Loon, Little Wall Lake,
 Hamilton, 14 April 2006. Photograph
 by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.*



*American Avocet, Diehl Ponds, Warren, 12 April 2006. Photograph by Jay
 Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.*



First basic Iceland Gull, Credit Island, Scott, 4 March 2006. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.



First basic Great Black-backed Gull, Credit Island, Scott, 4 March 2006. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.



First basic Glaucous Gull, Credit Island, Scott, 4 March 2006. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.



Philadelphia Vireo, Pilot Knob State Park (during spring IOU meeting), Hancock, 20 May 2006. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.



Mature male Snowy Owl in the same area as the female, near Blairsburg, Hamilton, 11 March 2006. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.



Immature female Snowy Owl near Blairsburg, Hamilton, 5 March 2006. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.



Gray-cheeked Thrush, Brookside Park, Ames, Story, 11 May 2006. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.



Prairie Warbler, Pleasant Creek SRA, Benton/Linn border, 27 May 2006. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.

IOU 2006 Photography Contest Winners

IOU is pleased to present the 2006 photography contest winners. There were 10 excellent entries that challenged judges Aaron Brees, Jay Gilliam, and Ty Smedes. Rules state that difficulty of photographing is a high criterium; therefore, the moving target birds captured the judges' attention.



First Place Winner: Sedge Wren, Indiangrass Hills, Iowa, 21 June 2005. Photograph by Mark Brown, Iowa City, IA.



Second Place Winner: Henslow's Sparrow, Indiangrass Hills, Iowa, 22 June 2005. Photograph by Mark Brown, Iowa City, IA.



Third Place Winner: American Goldfinch, Cummins Wetland, Warren, 5 July 2005. Photograph by Dick Stilwell, West Des Moines, IA.



Honorable Mention: Yellow-breasted Chat, Shimek State Forest, Croton Unit, Lee, 11 June 2005. Photograph by Mark Brown, Iowa City, IA.



Honorable Mention: Veery, Backbone State Park, Delaware, 14 May 2004. Photograph by Reid I. Allen, West Des Moines, IA.



One of eight Cape May Warblers in the same tree (at IOU spring meeting), Ventura, Cerro Gordo, 21 May 2006. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.



Painted Bunting, Brookside Park, Ames, Story, 11 May 2006. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.



Yellow-headed Blackbird, Bauer Slough, Hamilton, 21 May 2006. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.

Report of the Records Committee for 2005

Ann M. Johnson

During 2005, 333 species of birds were recorded in Iowa, probably the most ever. As a result, the Records Committee was very busy reviewing 77 reports, including two old reports. Of the 75 reports for 2005, 62 were accepted and 13 were not. The year 2005 was a banner year for the state list with Royal Tern (#411), Acorn Woodpecker (#412), and Green Violet-ear (#413) added.

Although some species reports listed below have several citations because they were observed at different locations, it is generally believed that the same individual (Brown Pelican and Black-legged Kittiwake) or groups (Black-bellied Whistling-Duck) were moving around the state throughout the time reported. Other species such as White-winged Dove may actually be having a range expansion if the growing number of reports is an indicator.

Committee members for 2005 with years in which their terms expire were Mike Overton (2005), Lee Schoenewe (2006), James J. Dinsmore (2007), Aaron Brees (2008), Matt Kenne (2009), Paul Hertzell (2010), and Ann M. Johnson (secretary, appointed by the committee). Stephen J. Dinsmore (2011) was nominated by the committee and appointed by the board of directors to fill a regular term beginning in 2006. James J. Dinsmore resigned at the conclusion of 2005 and Mike Overton was nominated and appointed to fill the final two years of Dinsmore's term.

A remarkable 156 reports were submitted on-line through the IOU website. Most of these were evaluated by the committee, while others were used by seasonal editors for their reports. The ease of web access no doubt contributed to the increase in reports, and the committee and editors are gratified to have more people reporting. Even reports that are reviewed and not accepted become a permanent part of the Iowa bird archives and could be important to future researchers.

At its 2005 annual meeting, the committee voted to redefine accidental status to be "observed less than four of the last ten years." This change creates a single year of overlap with the casual status definition and is consistent with the definition on the upper end between casual and regular.

The following status changes were approved by the committee: Brant, accidental to casual; Snowy Plover, accidental to casual; Ruff, accidental to casual; Townsend's Solitaire, casual to regular; Black-headed Grosbeak, accidental to casual; and Pine Grosbeak, casual to accidental.

The secretary began a new scheme of record numbers by using the full year designation. The six-digit number (year and sequence number) assigned to each record reviewed by the Records Committee is included for future reference. Records are classified as follows: A = Accepted (-S = specimen, -P = photograph, -R = recording, -D = documentation) and NA = Not Accepted. To be accepted, a record must receive 7 votes on the initial review or 6 votes on a subsequent review. The subcategories A-S, A-P, and A-R indicate that physical evidence supports the identification, and records are subclassified based on a majority vote. References to *IBL* are the page of the field reports in *Iowa Bird Life* where the record is

cited. P- numbers refer to the IOU Photo File entry number. Published notes and previous citations may contain more details. An * indicates a previously uncited documentation.

2005 RECORDS ACCEPTED

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck: 18 Apr at W. Okoboji *Dickinson* (2005-17, P-1049, *IBL* 75:122), 19 Apr at Alden *Hardin* (2005-18, P-1050, *IBL* 75:122, 139), 20 Apr at Iowa City *Johnson* (2005-19, P-1051, *IBL* 75:122), 22 Jun along the Mississippi R. *Lee* (2005-32, *IBL* 75:165, 166), and 26 Jul to 12 Sep at L. Anita *Cass* (2005-40, *IBL* 76:17).

Clark's Grebe: 26 to 28 Nov at Spirit L. *Dickinson* (2005-66, *IBL* 76:17, 21).

Brown Pelican: 14 to 18 Jul at Spirit L. *Dickinson* (2005-37, P-1058, *IBL* 75:165, 168), 30 Jul to 28 Aug at Jester P. *Polk* (2005-41, P-1060, *IBL* 75:165, 168) and 18 to 23 Nov at Red Rock R. *Marion* (2005-60, P-1067, *IBL* 76:17, 21) (Dinsmore and Dinsmore 2006).

Magnificent Frigatebird: 4 to 5 Sep at L. Macbride *Johnson* (2005-53, P-1065, *IBL* 76:17, 21 [Lowder 2006]).

Frigatebird sp.: 18 Sep at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (2005-55, *IBL* 76:17, 21 [Lowder 2006]).

Black Vulture: 20 Aug at Hitchcock NC *Pottawattamie* (2005-46, *IBL* 76:17, 22 [Orsag 2006]) and 21 Nov at Hazelton *Buchanan* (2005-62, P-1068, *IBL* 76:17, 22 [Cabell 2006]).

Ferruginous Hawk: 17 Oct and 23 Nov at Hitchcock NC *Pottawattamie* (2005-57, P-1066 and 2005-63, *IBL* 76:17, 23 [Orsag 2006]) and 17 Oct at Doolittle Prairie *Story* (2005-69, *IBL* 76:17, 23).

Prairie Falcon: 9 Nov at Hitchcock NC *Pottawattamie* (2005-59, *IBL* 76:17, 23 [Orsag 2006]).

King Rail: 11 May to 14 Aug at Cumming Wetland *Warren* (2005-26, P-1055, *IBL* 75:122, 125, cover, 165, 169; *IBL* 76:17, 23 [Gilliam 2005]).

Snowy Plover: 22 Aug at L. Rathbun *Appanoose* (2005-61, *IBL* 76:17, 24).

Whimbrel: 27 May at Riverton WA *Fremont* (2005-31, *IBL* 75:122, 126).

Red Knot: 14 to 17 Aug at Jester P. *Polk* (2005-64, *IBL* 76:17, 25) and 26 to 28 Aug at Red Rock Res. *Marion* (2005-50, P-1064, *IBL* 76:17, 25, 37).

Ruff: 6 May at Riverton WA *Fremont* (2005-21, *IBL* 75:122, 127).

Pomarine Jaeger: 26 to 30 Oct at Red Rock Res. *Marion* (2005-67, P-1069, *IBL* 76:17,26, 37).

Little Gull: 3 Sep at Welch L. *Dickinson* (2005-52, *IBL* 76:17, 26).

Black-headed Gull: 16 Jul to 5 Nov at Spirit L. *Dickinson* (2005-38, *IBL* 75:165, 171; *IBL* 76:17, 26).

California Gull: 19 Mar at L. Manawa *Pottawattamie* (2005-13, *IBL* 75:122, 128 *Marshall Iliff) and 2 Dec at Ft. Madison *Lee* (2005-72, *IBL* 76:87, 92).

Iceland Gull: 10 Jan at Iowa City *Johnson* (2005-03, *IBL* 75:61, 65 *Bob Dick, *Chris Edwards) and 11 Jan at Mississippi R. Pool 15 *Scott* (2005-05, *IBL* 75:61, 65 *Steve Freed).

Great Black-backed Gull: 2 Dec at Keokuk *Lee* (2005-71, *IBL* 76:87, 92) and 26 to 29 Dec at Davenport *Scott* (2005-68, *IBL* 76:87, 92).

Black-legged Kittiwake: 11 Nov at L & D 9 *Allamakee* (2005-65, *IBL* 76:17, 27), 1 to 4 Dec at Saylorsville Res. *Polk* (2005-74, P-1070, *IBL* 76:88,92, 97), and 10 Dec at Red Rock Res. *Marion* (2005-75, *IBL* 76:88, 92).

Royal Tern: 20 Aug to 14 Sep at L. Rathbun *Appanoose* (2005-45, P-1062, *IBL* 76:17, 27, 37 [Dinsmore and Gilliam 2006]).

White-winged Dove: 10 to 13 Apr at Sioux City *Woodbury* (2005-23, P-1052, *IBL* 75:122, 128), 4 Jul at Kingsley *Plymouth* (2005-35, P-1057, *IBL* 75:165, 171), 29 to 31 Jul at Graettinger *Palo Alto* (2005-39, *IBL* 75:165, 171), 2 Aug at Havelock *Pocahontas* (2005-42, *IBL* 76:17, 27), 7 to 11 Aug at Norwalk *Warren* (2005-43, P-1061, *IBL* 76:17, 27, 38), and 31 Dec near Spirit L. *Dickinson* (2005-73, *IBL* 76:88, 92).

Northern Hawk Owl: 24 Dec 2004 to 2 Apr at Manly *Worth* (2005-09, P-1046, *IBL* 75:61, 66, cover, 122, 129, 135 [Cecil 2005; Hertzel 2006]).

Great Gray Owl: 16 to 17 Jan near Madrid *Boone* (2005-04, P-1043, *IBL* 75:61, 66, cover [Cecil 2005]), 14 Feb at Jesup *Buchanan* (2005-08, P-1045, *IBL* 75:66 [Cecil 2005]), 16 Feb near Milford *Dickinson* (2005-10, P-1047, *IBL* 75:61, 66 [Cecil 2005]), and 6 to 17 Apr at Decorah *Winneshiek* (2005-15, P-1048, *IBL* 75:122, 129).

Green Violet-ear: 27 Sep to 4 Oct near Grundy Center *Grundy* (2005-49, P-1063, *IBL* 76:17, 28, cover [Neher 2006]).

Acorn Woodpecker: 1 Sep at Ames *Story* (2005-48, P-1062, *IBL* 76:17, 28).

Vermilion Flycatcher: 15 May to 10 Sep at Whiterock Conservancy *Guthrie* (2005-28, P-1056, *IBL* 75:122, 130, 140, 165, 172; *IBL* 76:17, 29).

Common Raven: 23 Sep near Storm Lake *Buena Vista* (2005-51, *IBL* 76:17, 29).

Townsend's Solitaire: 12 to 14 Feb at Floyd *Floyd* (2005-07, *IBL* 75:61, 67).

Summer Tanager: 11 Apr at Mason City *Cerro Gordo* (2005-47, *IBL* 75:136 *Carolyn Fischer [Fischer 2005]).

Western Tanager: 11 to 17 May at Mason City *Cerro Gordo* (2005-25, P-1054, *IBL* 75:122, 136 [Fischer 2005]), 15 May at Iowa City *Johnson* (2005-27, *IBL* 75:122, 136), and 17 Aug at Hitchcock NC *Pottawattamie* (2005-44, *IBL* 76:17, 33 [Orsag 2006]).

Lark Bunting: 7 May at Gitchie Manitou *Lyon* (2005-22, *IBL* 75:122, 136).

Black-headed Grosbeak: 29 to 30 Jan at Garnavillo *Clayton* (2005-06, P-1044, *IBL* 75:61, 68) and 25 May at Hitchcock WA *Pottawattamie* (2005-30, *IBL* 75:122, 137).

Lazuli Bunting: 10 May at Hitchcock NC *Pottawattamie* (2005-24, P-101053, *IBL* 75:122, 137) and 19 May at Sidney *Fremont* (2005-29, *IBL* 75:122, 137).

Pine Grosbeak: 11 Oct at Two Elms P. *Hardin* (2005-56, *IBL* 76:17, 35).

2005 RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED

Barrow's Goldeneye: Less than optimal viewing conditions prevented the observers from seeing all the critical field marks necessary for a positive ID of a difficult to separate group (2005-70, *IBL* 76:19).

Brown Pelican: A very brief description could not rule out a discolored White Pelican (2005-20, *IBL* 75:122, 124).

Osprey: Reviewers generally believed this report could have been correct but it was lacking enough description to be certain (2005-02, *IBL* 75:61, 64).

Gyr Falcon: A report of a white raptor was considered to be most likely an albinistic *buteo* (2005-58).

Black Rail: The description was not conclusive for this species (2005-36).

Bonaparte's Gull: Lacking description of some of the critical field marks, the committee took a conservative stance (2005-11, *IBL* 75:61, 65).

Great Gray Owl: One photographed that appeared to be this species at first glance

proved to be a Barred Owl with an unusually prominent bow-tie marking (2005-01, P-1041, *IBL* 75:61, 66).

Selasphorus sp.: The description of a Rufous Hummingbird was too brief to be conclusive as to genus (2005-54).

Alder Flycatcher: A heard-only bird at an unusual time of year left some doubt (2005-33).

Black-billed Magpie: The committee was split on this report but felt that the description was too minimal to support the identification of a bird well east of its normal range (2005-12, *IBL* 75:122, 130).

Hooded Crow: A crow with interesting plumage was determined to be either an odd American Crow or an escaped crow of foreign descent (2005-34, *IBL* 75:166).

MacGillivray's Warbler: A report was tantalizing but was not accepted when the observer expressed some doubts (2005-16).

Hoary Redpoll: A report that might well have been correct was not accepted after considerable discussion. The observer's inability to see the undertail coverts despite trying left just a shadow of a doubt. A pale Common Redpoll can often appear to be a Hoary and observation of all key field marks is critical (2005-14, *IBL* 75:61, 69).

OLD RECORDS REVIEWED FOR THE FIRST TIME AND NOT ACCEPTED

Fulvous Whistling-Duck: A brief report submitted quite some time after the observation, as well as the possibility of an escaped bird, was a problem for the committee (2005-AA).

Purple Gallinule: A specimen discovered in a collection may well have been taken in Iowa in the early 1900s, but the lack of concrete details on date and location created a split vote (2005-AB).

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Official Checklist of Iowa Birds, 2005 Edition

Ann M. Johnson

The publication of this edition of the Iowa list comes seven years after the last (1998) and incorporates several changes in English and scientific nomenclature as well as an addition and a change from splits in the latest American Ornithologists' Union (AOU) checklist, the authoritative source on the taxonomy of North American birds. Although the changes to orders are not as massive as they were several years ago, there are a few changes in the taxonomic order. This list incorporates changes made in the 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, and 46th Supplements to the 1998 AOU Checklist, as published in *Auk* 117: 847–858 (2000); 119:897–906 (2002); 120:923–931 (2003); 121:985–995 (2004); and 122:1026–1031 (2005).

This Iowa list includes all records through December 2005. There are 413 species on the list, up from 401 in 1998 (*IBL* 68:73–84), 397 in 1995 (*IBL* 66:76–85), 384 in 1991 (*IBL* 61:101–109), 371 in 1986 (*IBL* 56:46–55), and 361 in 1982 (*IBL* 52:67–76). Species added since 1998 are Yellow-billed Loon, Arctic Tern, Lesser Goldfinch, Painted Bunting, Crested Caracara, Hooded Oriole, Cackling Goose, Baird's Sparrow, Boreal Owl, Royal Tern, Acorn Woodpecker, and Green Violet-ear.

The categories for status, nesting, and type of record are given below, with the number of species in each category in parentheses. The status of species seen in 3, 4, or 8 of the last 10 years is determined by majority vote of the Records Committee.

Regular = seen every year or nearly every year, at least 8 of last 10 years (302 species)

Casual = seen many years but not all, at least 3, and less than 9, of last 10 years (26 species)

Accidental = seen once to several times, but less than 4 of last 10 years (81 species)

Extirpated = once regular or casual, but not seen in 50 years (2 species)

Extinct = no longer seen anywhere (2 species)

N = definite evidence of having nested in the state (200 species)

N? = probable evidence of nesting in the state (4 species)

S = existing specimen (316 species)

P = photograph published or on file (82 species)

R = recording on file (1 species)

D = written description or published report on file (14 species)

Changes in the Iowa list since the last edition that resulted from changes in the AOU checklist are given below.

Changes in English names:

Oldsquaw becomes Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula hyemalis*)

Rock Dove becomes Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*)

Changes in scientific names:

Crested Caracara (*Caracara plancus*) becomes (*Caracara cheriway*)

Purple Gallinule (*Porphyryla martinica*) becomes (*Porphyrio martinica*)

Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicaria*) becomes (*Phalaropus fulicarius*)
Eastern Screech-Owl (*Otus asio*) becomes (*Megascops asio*)
Snowy Owl (*Nyctea scandiaca*) becomes (*Bubo scandiacus*)
Black-billed Magpie (*Pica pica*) becomes (*Pica hudsonia*)
Boreal Chickadee (*Poecile hudsonicus*) becomes (*Poecile hudsonica*)
Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapillus*) becomes (*Seiurus aurocapilla*)
Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca caerulea*) becomes (*Passerina caerulea*)

Changes in position of orders:

ANSERIFORMES moved to beginning of order
GALLIFORMES follow ANSERIFORMES
GAVIIFORMES follow GALLIFORMES

Addition to the Iowa list as a result of splits in the AOU checklist:

Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) split from Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*)

Change in the Iowa list as a result of splits in the AOU checklist:

Common Snipe becomes Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*) split from (*Gallinago gallinago*)

Changes in the Iowa list that are the result of new information and Records Committee decisions are summarized as follows:

Species added (Accidental): Yellow-billed Loon, Crested Caracara, Royal Tern, Arctic Tern, Boreal Owl, Green Violet-ear, Acorn Woodpecker, Baird's Sparrow, Painted Bunting, Hooded Oriole, and Lesser Goldfinch.

Casual to Regular: Black-necked Stilt

Regular to Casual: King Rail, Laughing Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Townsend's Solitaire, Evening Grosbeak

Accidental to Casual: Clark's Grebe, Ferruginous Hawk, White-winged Dove, Rufous Hummingbird

Casual to Accidental: Little Gull

Accidental to Regular: Eurasian Collared-Dove, Black-billed Magpie

To Nesting: Pine Warbler

Photograph to Specimen: Lazuli Bunting

Photograph, new species: Cackling Goose, Yellow-billed Loon, Crested Caracara, Royal Tern, Arctic Tern, Boreal Owl, Green Violet-ear, Acorn Woodpecker, Hooded Oriole, and Lesser Goldfinch

Documentation to Photograph: Garganey, Tricolored Heron, Bullock's Oriole

Documentation, new species: Baird's Sparrow, Painted Bunting

Official Checklist of Iowa Birds, 2005 Edition

N = Nesting, N? = Possible nesting, S = Specimen, P = Photograph, R = Recording, D = Documentation

Order ANSERIFORMES

Ducks, Geese, and Swans, Anatidae

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>	Accidental	S
Bean Goose	<i>Anser fabalis</i>	Accidental	P
Greater White-fronted Goose	<i>Anser albifrons</i>	Regular	S
Snow Goose	<i>Anser caerulescens</i>	Regular	S
Ross's Goose	<i>Anser rossii</i>	Regular	S
Brant	<i>Branta bernicla</i>	Casual	S
Cackling Goose	<i>Branta hutchinsii</i>	Regular	P
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	Regular	N S
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	Regular	P
Trumpeter Swan	<i>Cygnus buccinator</i>	Regular	N S
Tundra Swan	<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	Regular	S
Wood Duck	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	Regular	N S
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	Regular	N S
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>	Accidental	S
American Wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>	Regular	N S
American Black Duck	<i>Anas rubripes</i>	Regular	N S
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Regular	N S
Blue-winged Teal	<i>Anas discors</i>	Regular	N S
Cinnamon Teal	<i>Anas cyanoptera</i>	Regular	P
Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	Regular	N S
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	Regular	N S
Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>	Accidental	P
Green-winged Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	Regular	N S
Canvasback	<i>Aythya valisineria</i>	Regular	N S
Redhead	<i>Aythya americana</i>	Regular	N S
Ring-necked Duck	<i>Aythya collaris</i>	Regular	N S
Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>	Regular	N S
Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	Regular	N S
King Eider	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>	Accidental	S
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Accidental	P
Harlequin Duck	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>	Accidental	S
Surf Scoter	<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>	Regular	S
White-winged Scoter	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	Regular	S
Black Scoter	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>	Regular	S
Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	Regular	S
Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	Regular	N S

Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	Regular		S
Barrow's Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala islandica</i>	Accidental		P
Hooded Merganser	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	Regular	N	S
Common Merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	Regular		S
Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	Regular		S
Ruddy Duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>	Regular	N	S
Order GALLIFORMES				
Partridges, Grouse, Turkeys, and Old World Quail, Phasianidae				
Gray Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	Regular	N	S
Ring-necked Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	Regular	N	S
Ruffed Grouse	<i>Bonasa umbellus</i>	Regular	N	S
Sharp-tailed Grouse	<i>Tympanuchus phasianellus</i>	Extirpated		S
Greater Prairie-Chicken	<i>Tympanuchus cupido</i>	Regular	N	S
Wild Turkey	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>	Regular	N	S
New World Quail: Odontophoridae				
Northern Bobwhite	<i>Colinus virginianus</i>	Regular	N	S
Order GAVIIFORMES				
Loons, Gaviidae				
Red-throated Loon	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Regular		P
Pacific Loon	<i>Gavia pacifica</i>	Regular		S
Common Loon	<i>Gavia immer</i>	Regular	N	S
Yellow-billed Loon	<i>Gavia adamsii</i>	Accidental		P
Order PODICIPEDIFORMES				
Grebes, Podicipedidae				
Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	Regular	N	S
Horned Grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	Regular		S
Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	Regular	N	S
Eared Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	Regular	N	S
Western Grebe	<i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i>	Regular	N	S
Clark's Grebe	<i>Aechmophorus clarkii</i>	Casual		P
Order PELECANIFORMES				
Pelicans, Pelecanidae				
American White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	Regular	N?	S
Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	Accidental		P
Cormorants, Phalacrocoracidae				
Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	Accidental		P
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>	Regular	N	S
Darters, Anhingidae				
Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	Accidental		D
Frigatebirds, Fregatidae				
Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	Accidental		P

Order CICONIIFORMES

Hérons, Bitterns and Allies, Ardeidae

American Bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	Regular	N	S
Least Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	Regular	N	S
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	Regular	N	S
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	Regular	N	S
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Regular		S
Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Regular	N?	P
Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	Accidental		P
Reddish Egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>	Accidental		P
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Regular	N	S
Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>	Regular	N	S
Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Regular	N	S
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	Regular	N	S

Ibises and Spoonbills, Threskiornithidae

White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	Accidental		P
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Accidental		P
White-faced Ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	Regular	N	S
Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Platalea ajaja</i>	Accidental		P

Storks, Ciconiidae

Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Accidental		D
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New World Vultures, Cathartidae

Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	Accidental		S
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Regular	N	S

Order FALCONIFORMES

Hawks, Kites, Eagles, and Allies, Accipitridae

Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Regular		S
Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	Accidental	N	S
Mississippi Kite	<i>Ictinia mississippiensis</i>	Regular	N	P
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Regular	N	S
Northern Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Regular	N	S
Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	Regular	N	S
Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Regular	N	S
Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Regular		S
Red-shouldered Hawk	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	Regular	N	S
Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	Regular	N	S
Swainson's Hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	Regular	N	S
Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	Regular	N	S
Ferruginous Hawk	<i>Buteo regalis</i>	Casual		P
Rough-legged Hawk	<i>Buteo lagopus</i>	Regular		S
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Regular		S

Caracaras and Falcons, Falconidae					
Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara cheriway</i>	Accidental		P	
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	Regular	N	S	
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	Regular	N	S	
Gyr Falcon	<i>Falco rusticolus</i>	Accidental		P	
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Regular	N	S	
Prairie Falcon	<i>Falco mexicanus</i>	Regular		S	
Order GRUIFORMES					
Rails, Gallinules, and Coots, Rallidae					
Yellow Rail	<i>Coturnicops noveboracensis</i>	Regular		S	
Black Rail	<i>Laterallus jamaicensis</i>	Accidental		D	
King Rail	<i>Rallus elegans</i>	Casual	N	S	
Virginia Rail	<i>Rallus limicola</i>	Regular	N	S	
Sora	<i>Porzana carolina</i>	Regular	N	S	
Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyrio martinica</i>	Accidental		S	
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Regular	N	S	
American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>	Regular	N	S	
Cranes, Gruidae					
Sandhill Crane	<i>Grus canadensis</i>	Regular	N	S	
Whooping Crane	<i>Grus americana</i>	Accidental	N	S	
Order CHARADRIIFORMES					
Lapwings and Plovers, Charadriidae					
Black-bellied Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Regular		S	
American Golden-Plover	<i>Pluvialis dominica</i>	Regular		S	
Snowy Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	Casual		P	
Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	Regular		S	
Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Regular	N	S	
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	Regular	N	S	
Stilts and Avocets, Recurvirostridae					
Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	Regular		P	
American Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>	Regular		S	
Sandpipers, Phalaropes, and Allies, Scolopacidae					
Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	Regular		S	
Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	Regular		S	
Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>	Regular		S	
Willet	<i>Catoptrophorus semipalmatus</i>	Regular		S	
Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Tringa macularia</i>	Regular	N	S	
Upland Sandpiper	<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>	Regular	N	S	
Eskimo Curlew	<i>Numenius borealis</i>	Extirpated		S	
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Casual		P	
Long-billed Curlew	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Accidental	N	S	

Hudsonian Godwit	<i>Limosa haemastica</i>	Regular		S
Marbled Godwit	<i>Limosa fedoa</i>	Regular	N	S
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Regular		S
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Casual		S
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Regular		S
Semipalmated Sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>	Regular		S
Western Sandpiper	<i>Calidris mauri</i>	Regular		S
Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	Regular		S
White-rumped Sandpiper	<i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>	Regular		S
Baird's Sandpiper	<i>Calidris bairdii</i>	Regular		S
Pectoral Sandpiper	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>	Regular		S
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Accidental		P
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Regular		S
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Accidental		P
Silt Sandpiper	<i>Micropalama himantopus</i>	Regular		S
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	<i>Tryngites subruficollis</i>	Regular		S
Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	Casual		S
Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	Regular		S
Long-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i>	Regular		S
Wilson's Snipe	<i>Gallinago delicata</i>	Regular	N	S
American Woodcock	<i>Scolopax minor</i>	Regular	N	S
Wilson's Phalarope	<i>Steganopus tricolor</i>	Regular	N	S
Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	Regular		S
Red Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	Casual		P
Skuas, Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers, Laridae				
Pomarine Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>	Accidental		P
Parasitic Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	Accidental		S
Long-tailed Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	Accidental		S
Laughing Gull	<i>Larus atricilla</i>	Casual		P
Franklin's Gull	<i>Larus pipixcan</i>	Regular	N	S
Little Gull	<i>Larus minutus</i>	Accidental		P
Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	Casual	N?	P
Bonaparte's Gull	<i>Larus philadelphia</i>	Regular		S
Mew Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	Casual		P
Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	Regular	N	S
California Gull	<i>Larus californicus</i>	Casual		P
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Regular		S
Thayer's Gull	<i>Larus thayeri</i>	Regular		P
Iceland Gull	<i>Larus glaucoides</i>	Casual		P
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Regular		P
Slaty-backed Gull	<i>Larus schistisagus</i>	Accidental		P

Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Regular		P
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	Casual		P
Sabine's Gull	<i>Xema sabini</i>	Regular		S
Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Casual		P
Ross's Gull	<i>Rhodostethia rosea</i>	Accidental		P
Ivory Gull	<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>	Accidental		P
Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>	Regular		S
Royal Tern	<i>Sterna maxima</i>	Accidental		P
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Regular		S
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Accidental		P
Forster's Tern	<i>Sterna forsteri</i>	Regular	N	S
Least Tern	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>	Regular	N	S
Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	Regular	N	S
Auks, Murres, and Puffins, Alcidae				
Thick-billed Murre	<i>Uria lomvia</i>	Accidental		D
Long-billed Murrelet	<i>Brachyramphus perdix</i>	Accidental		D
Ancient Murrelet	<i>Synthliboramphus antiquus</i>	Accidental		D
Order COLUMBIFORMES				
Pigeons and Doves, Columbidae				
Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Regular	N	S
Eurasian Collared-Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Regular	N	S
White-winged Dove	<i>Zenaida asiatica</i>	Casual		P
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Regular	N	S
Passenger Pigeon	<i>Ectopistes migratorius</i>	Extinct	N	S
Common Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina passerina</i>	Accidental		P
Order PSITTACIFORMES				
Lories, Parakeets, Macaws, and Parrots, Psittacidae				
Carolina Parakeet	<i>Conuropsis carolinensis</i>	Extinct		D
Order CUCULIFORMES				
Cuckoos, Roadrunners, and Anis, Cuculidae				
Black-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i>	Regular	N	S
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Regular	N	S
Groove-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>	Accidental		P
Order STRIGIFORMES				
Barn Owls, Tytonidae				
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	Regular	N	S
Typical Owls, Strigidae				
Eastern Screech-Owl	<i>Megascops asio</i>	Regular	N	S
Great Horned Owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>	Regular	N	S
Snowy Owl	<i>Bubo scandiacus</i>	Regular		S
Northern Hawk Owl	<i>Surnia ulula</i>	Accidental		P

Burrowing Owl	<i>Speotyto cunicularia</i>	Casual	N	S
Barred Owl	<i>Strix varia</i>	Regular	N	S
Great Gray Owl	<i>Strix nebulosa</i>	Accidental		S
Long-eared Owl	<i>Asio otus</i>	Regular	N	S
Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Regular	N	S
Boreal Owl	<i>Aegolius funereus</i>	Accidental		P
Northern Saw-whet Owl	<i>Aegolius acadicus</i>	Regular		S
Order CAPRIMULGIFORMES				
Goatsuckers, Caprimulgidae				
Common Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	Regular	N	S
Chuck-will's-widow	<i>Caprimulgus carolinensis</i>	Regular	N	P
Whip-poor-will	<i>Caprimulgus vociferus</i>	Regular	N	S
Order APODIFORMES				
Swifts, Apodidae				
Chimney Swift	<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>	Regular	N	S
Hummingbirds, Trochilidae				
Green Violet-ear	<i>Colibri thalassinus</i>	Accidental		P
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	<i>Archilochus colubris</i>	Regular	N	S
Rufous Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus rufus</i>	Casual		S
Order CORACIIFORMES				
Kingfishers, Alcedinidae				
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle alcyon</i>	Regular	N	S
Order PICIFORMES				
Woodpeckers and Allies, Picidae				
Lewis's Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>	Accidental		P
Red-headed Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>	Regular	N	S
Acorn Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>	Accidental		P
Red-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes carolinus</i>	Regular	N	S
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	Regular	N	S
Downy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides pubescens</i>	Regular	N	S
Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides villosus</i>	Regular	N	S
Black-backed Woodpecker	<i>Picoides arcticus</i>	Accidental		P
Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	Regular	N	S
Pileated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>	Regular	N	S
Order PASSERIFORMES				
Tyrant Flycatchers, Tyrannidae				
Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	Regular	N	S
Western Wood-Pewee	<i>Contopus sordidulus</i>	Accidental		D
Eastern Wood-Pewee	<i>Contopus virens</i>	Regular	N	S
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax flaviventris</i>	Regular		S
Acadian Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax virescens</i>	Regular	N	S

Alder Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax alnorum</i>	Regular		R
Willow Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	Regular	N	S
Least Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax minimus</i>	Regular	N	S
Western Flycatcher sp.	<i>Empidonax difficilis</i>	Accidental		P
Eastern Phoebe	<i>Sayornis phoebe</i>	Regular	N	S
Say's Phoebe	<i>Sayornis saya</i>	Accidental	N	P
Vermilion Flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>	Accidental		P
Great Crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>	Regular	N	S
Western Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus verticalis</i>	Regular	N	S
Eastern Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>	Regular	N	S
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannus forficatus</i>	Casual	N	S
Shrikes, Laniidae				
Loggerhead Shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	Regular	N	S
Northern Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>	Regular		S
Vireos, Vireonidae				
White-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo griseus</i>	Regular	N	P
Bell's Vireo	<i>Vireo bellii</i>	Regular	N	S
Yellow-throated Vireo	<i>Vireo flavifrons</i>	Regular	N	S
Blue-headed Vireo	<i>Vireo solitarius</i>	Regular		S
Warbling Vireo	<i>Vireo gilvus</i>	Regular	N	S
Philadelphia Vireo	<i>Vireo philadelphicus</i>	Regular		S
Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	Regular	N	S
Crows and Jays, Corvidae				
Gray Jay	<i>Perisoreus canadensis</i>	Accidental		P
Blue Jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>	Regular	N	S
Pinyon Jay	<i>Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus</i>	Accidental		P
Clark's Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga columbiana</i>	Accidental		S
Black-billed Magpie	<i>Pica hudsonia</i>	Regular	N	S
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Regular	N	S
Fish Crow	<i>Corvus ossifragus</i>	Accidental		D
Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	Accidental		S
Larks, Alaudidae				
Horned Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>	Regular	N	S
Swallows, Hirundinidae				
Purple Martin	<i>Progne subis</i>	Regular	N	S
Tree Swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	Regular	N	S
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>	Regular	N	S
Bank Swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Regular	N	S
Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>	Regular	N	S
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Regular	N	S

Chickadees and Titmice, Paridae					
Black-capped Chickadee	<i>Poecile atricapillus</i>	Regular	N	S	
Boreal Chickadee	<i>Poecile hudsonica</i>	Accidental		P	
Tufted Titmouse	<i>Baeolophus bicolor</i>	Regular	N	S	
Nuthatches, Sittidae					
Red-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta canadensis</i>	Regular	N	S	
White-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>	Regular	N	S	
Pygmy Nuthatch	<i>Sitta pygmaea</i>	Accidental		P	
Creepers, Certhiidae					
Brown Creeper	<i>Certhia americana</i>	Regular	N	S	
Wrens, Troglodytidae					
Rock Wren	<i>Salpinctes obsoletus</i>	Accidental	N	P	
Carolina Wren	<i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>	Regular	N	S	
Bewick's Wren	<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>	Regular	N	S	
House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	Regular	N	S	
Winter Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Regular	N	S	
Sedge Wren	<i>Cistothorus platensis</i>	Regular	N	S	
Marsh Wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>	Regular	N	S	
Kinglets, Regulidae					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus satrapa</i>	Regular		S	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus calendula</i>	Regular		S	
Old World Warblers and Gnatcatchers, Sylviidae					
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila caerulea</i>	Regular	N	S	
Thrushes, Turdidae					
Eastern Bluebird	<i>Sialia sialis</i>	Regular	N	S	
Mountain Bluebird	<i>Sialia currucoides</i>	Casual		P	
Townsend's Solitaire	<i>Myadestes townsendi</i>	Regular		P	
Veery	<i>Catharus fuscescens</i>	Regular	N	S	
Gray-cheeked Thrush	<i>Catharus minimus</i>	Regular		S	
Swainson's Thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	Regular		S	
Hermit Thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>	Regular		S	
Wood Thrush	<i>Catharus mustelinus</i>	Regular	N	S	
American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	Regular	N	S	
Varied Thrush	<i>Zoothera naevia</i>	Regular		S	
Mockingbirds and Thrashers, Mimidae					
Gray Catbird	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>	Regular	N	S	
Northern Mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	Regular	N	S	
Sage Thrasher	<i>Oreoscoptes montanus</i>	Accidental		P	
Brown Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma rufum</i>	Regular	N	S	
Curve-billed Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma curvirostre</i>	Accidental		P	

Starlings, Sturnidae				
European Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Regular	N	S
Wagtails and Pipits, Motacillidae				
American Pipit	<i>Anthus rubescens</i>	Regular		S
Sprague's Pipit	<i>Anthus spragueii</i>	Accidental		D
Waxwings, Bombycillidae				
Bohemian Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla garrulus</i>	Regular		S
Cedar Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>	Regular	N	S
Wood-Warblers, Parulidae				
Blue-winged Warbler	<i>Vermivora pinus</i>	Regular	N	S
Golden-winged Warbler	<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>	Regular	N	S
Tennessee Warbler	<i>Vermivora peregrina</i>	Regular		S
Orange-crowned Warbler	<i>Vermivora celata</i>	Regular		S
Nashville Warbler	<i>Vermivora ruficapilla</i>	Regular		S
Northern Parula	<i>Parula americana</i>	Regular	N	S
Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	Regular	N	S
Chestnut-sided Warbler	<i>Dendroica pensylvanica</i>	Regular	N	S
Magnolia Warbler	<i>Dendroica magnolia</i>	Regular		S
Cape May Warbler	<i>Dendroica tigrina</i>	Regular		S
Black-throated Blue Warbler	<i>Dendroica caerulescens</i>	Regular		S
Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Dendroica coronata</i>	Regular		S
Black-throated Gray Warbler	<i>Dendroica nigrescens</i>	Accidental		D
Black-throated Green Warbler	<i>Dendroica virens</i>	Regular		S
Townsend's Warbler	<i>Dendroica townsendi</i>	Accidental		D
Blackburnian Warbler	<i>Dendroica fusca</i>	Regular		S
Yellow-throated Warbler	<i>Dendroica dominica</i>	Regular	N	P
Pine Warbler	<i>Dendroica pinus</i>	Regular	N	S
Prairie Warbler	<i>Dendroica discolor</i>	Casual	N	P
Palm Warbler	<i>Dendroica palmarum</i>	Regular		S
Bay-breasted Warbler	<i>Dendroica castanea</i>	Regular		S
Blackpoll Warbler	<i>Dendroica striata</i>	Regular		S
Cerulean Warbler	<i>Dendroica cerulea</i>	Regular	N	S
Black-and-white Warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>	Regular	N	S
American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	Regular	N	S
Prothonotary Warbler	<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>	Regular	N	S
Worm-eating Warbler	<i>Helmitheros vermivorus</i>	Regular	N	P
Ovenbird	<i>Seiurus aurocapilla</i>	Regular	N	S
Northern Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i>	Regular		S
Louisiana Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus motacilla</i>	Regular	N	S
Kentucky Warbler	<i>Oporornis formosus</i>	Regular	N	S
Connecticut Warbler	<i>Oporornis agilis</i>	Regular		S

Mourning Warbler	<i>Oporornis philadelphia</i>	Regular		S
MacGillivray's Warbler	<i>Oporornis tolmiei</i>	Accidental		D
Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	Regular	N	S
Hooded Warbler	<i>Wilsonia citrina</i>	Regular	N	S
Wilson's Warbler	<i>Wilsonia pusilla</i>	Regular		S
Canada Warbler	<i>Wilsonia canadensis</i>	Regular		S
Yellow-breasted Chat	<i>Icteria virens</i>	Regular	N	S
Tanagers, Thraupidae				
Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>	Regular	N	S
Scarlet Tanager	<i>Piranga olivacea</i>	Regular	N	S
Western Tanager	<i>Piranga ludoviciana</i>	Casual		P
Emberizids, Emberizidae				
Green-tailed Towhee	<i>Pipilo chlorurus</i>	Accidental		P
Spotted Towhee	<i>Pipilo maculatus</i>	Regular		P
Eastern Towhee	<i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>	Regular	N	S
American Tree Sparrow	<i>Spizella arborea</i>	Regular		S
Chipping Sparrow	<i>Spizella passerina</i>	Regular	N	S
Clay-colored Sparrow	<i>Spizella pallida</i>	Regular	N	S
Field Sparrow	<i>Spizella pusilla</i>	Regular	N	S
Vesper Sparrow	<i>Poocetes gramineus</i>	Regular	N	S
Lark Sparrow	<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>	Regular	N	S
Black-throated Sparrow	<i>Amphispiza bilineata</i>	Accidental		P
Lark Bunting	<i>Calamospiza melanocorys</i>	Accidental		P
Savannah Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>	Regular	N	S
Grasshopper Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	Regular	N	S
Baird's Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus bairdii</i>	Accidental		D
Henslow's Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus henslowii</i>	Regular	N	S
Le Conte's Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus leconteii</i>	Regular		S
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus nelsoni</i>	Regular		S
Fox Sparrow	<i>Passerella iliaca</i>	Regular		S
Song Sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	Regular	N	S
Lincoln's Sparrow	<i>Melospiza lincolni</i>	Regular		S
Swamp Sparrow	<i>Melospiza georgiana</i>	Regular	N	S
White-throated Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>	Regular		S
Harris's Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia querula</i>	Regular		S
White-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>	Regular		S
Golden-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia atricapilla</i>	Accidental		P
Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	Regular		S
Lapland Longspur	<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i>	Regular		S
Smith's Longspur	<i>Calcarius pictus</i>	Regular		S
Chestnut-collared Longspur	<i>Calcarius ornatus</i>	Accidental		S
Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	Regular		S

Cardinals, Saltators, and Allies: Cardinalidae

Northern Cardinal	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>	Regular	N	S
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>	Regular	N	S
Black-headed Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i>	Casual		P
Blue Grosbeak	<i>Passerina caerulea</i>	Regular	N	S
Lazuli Bunting	<i>Passerina amoena</i>	Casual		S
Indigo Bunting	<i>Passerina cyanea</i>	Regular	N	S
Painted Bunting	<i>Passerina ciris</i>	Accidental		D
Dickcissel	<i>Spiza americana</i>	Regular	N	S

Blackbirds, Icteridae

Bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	Regular	N	S
Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	Regular	N	S
Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	Regular	N	S
Western Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>	Regular	N	S
Yellow-headed Blackbird	<i>Xanthocephalus</i> <i>xanthocephalus</i>	Regular	N	S
Rusty Blackbird	<i>Euphagus carolinus</i>	Regular		S
Brewer's Blackbird	<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>	Regular		S
Common Grackle	<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>	Regular	N	S
Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>	Regular	N	P
Brown-headed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>	Regular	N	S
Orchard Oriole	<i>Icterus spurius</i>	Regular	N	S
Hooded Oriole	<i>Icterus cucullatus</i>	Accidental		P
Bullock's Oriole	<i>Icterus bullockii</i>	Accidental		P
Baltimore Oriole	<i>Icterus galbula</i>	Regular	N	S

Fringilline and Cardueline Finches and Allies, Fringillidae

Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch	<i>Leucosticte tephrocotis</i>	Accidental		P
Pine Grosbeak	<i>Pinicola enucleator</i>	Accidental		S
Purple Finch	<i>Carpodacus purpureus</i>	Regular		S
House Finch	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	Regular	N	S
Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	Regular	N?	S
White-winged Crossbill	<i>Loxia leucoptera</i>	Regular		S
Common Redpoll	<i>Carduelis flammea</i>	Regular		S
Hoary Redpoll	<i>Carduelis hornemanni</i>	Accidental		P
Pine Siskin	<i>Carduelis pinus</i>	Regular	N	S
Lesser Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis psaltria</i>	Accidental		P
American Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis tristis</i>	Regular	N	S
Evening Grosbeak	<i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i>	Casual		S

Old World Sparrows, Passeridae

House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Regular	N	S
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Regular	N	P

James J. Dinsmore, Recipient of the ABA Ludlow Griscom Award

Kayleen A. Niyo

On 23 June 2006, at the American Birding Association (ABA) Convention in Bangor, ME, Jim Dinsmore received the prestigious ABA Ludlow Griscom Award for Outstanding Contributions in Regional Ornithology (Figures 1 and 2).

He was nominated by Robert I. Cecil who, in reading the award nomination requirements, knew that "They described Jim perfectly!"

The ABA states this "award is given to individuals who have dramatically advanced the state of ornitho-

logical knowledge for a particular region. This may be through their long-time contributions in monitoring avian status and distribution, facilitating the publication of state bird books, breeding bird atlases and significant papers on the regional natural history of birds. This may also be through the force of their personality, teaching and inspiration."

Bob described Jim very well in his nomination letter.

"Lying as it does at a crossroads of ornithological convergence, it is only fitting that Jim Dinsmore finally settled in Iowa. He has helped generations of its birders, from novices to graduate students, create understanding from the state's avian complexity. A Professor Emeritus of Animal Ecology at Iowa State University who specializes in ornithology, Jim's technical background is impressive, including graduate study of an introduced population of the Greater Bird-of-Paradise in Trinidad and Tobago and Sooty Terns in the Dry Tortugas. Equally important has been his ability to share his expertise and enthusiasm with birders and naturalists at every level.

"Jim's journey of service and research for Iowa and the Midwest began with his arrival at Iowa State in 1975. His first major contribution to Iowa birding was his co-authorship of *Iowa Birds* in 1984, the first comprehensive text on the state's birds in 50 years. Soon afterward, he became involved in the Iowa Breeding Bird Atlas project, where he contributed countless hours of fieldwork. During this time, he was elected to the Iowa Records Committee where he has served more years than any other regular member, and also served two terms as Iowa Ornithologists' Union president. In 1990, he became editor of *Iowa Bird Life*, following years of contributing articles and serving as a seasonal field reports



Figure 1. Donnie Dann, ABA board member; Jim Dinsmore, ABA Ludlow Griscom Award recipient of 2006; and John Riutta, Leupold Optics.

editor. In 1994, he completed *A Country So Full of Game*, a fascinating and meticulously researched chronicle of Iowa's wildlife heritage. A year later, he was co-author of the *Iowa Wildlife Viewing Guide*. In 1996, he published, with Thomas H. Kent, the all-new volume, *Birds in Iowa*, and was co-author of the *The Iowa Breeding Bird Atlas*. More recently, he became a charter member of and chairs Iowa's Important Bird Areas Technical Committee for Iowa Audubon. Jim also worked actively with The Nature Conservancy as a member of the board of directors and with other conservation organizations to better understand and preserve the birdlife of Iowa and the Midwest.

"It is inevitable that all this talent and energy could not be contained within Iowa. We have been honored to share him with, for example, ABA's *North American Birds*, for which he is Summer Reports editor for the Iowa-Missouri Region, and ABA's *Birding*, for which he serves as a Technical Reviewer. On the academic level, he was elected to Elective Member status of the American Ornithologists' Union and is a fellow of the Iowa Academy of Science.

"The long-term impacts of Jim's work are less conspicuous yet perhaps more profound. During the years of his work at Iowa State University, he has inspired literally hundreds of students to pursue careers in ornithology and wildlife biology, and helped hundreds more to develop an insightful appreciation of the natural world around them. He has directed more than twenty graduate students during his career, and many are now making their own significant professional contributions by holding faculty positions at major universities, working as biologists at the state and national levels, serving as private consultants, and more. Nearly all of these students published the results of their studies in nationally recognized journals, more than 40 such contributions during Jim's career. I think it would be agreed, however, that one of Jim's most enduring contributions is that of his son, Stephen, who, with innate ability and perseverance, himself is becoming an important figure in American ornithology.

"Finally, Jim is, simply stated, just a nice guy. He is unassuming, almost bashful sometimes, effectively camouflaging a challenging intellect, although he frequently betrays it with his wry sense of humor. He is counted as a friend by fledgling birders and respected as a peer by fellow scholars. His service has been selfless and tireless; his contributions immeasurable. There are few people who have made a comparable contribution to regional ornithology, and perhaps none who are as deserving of the Ludlow Griscom Award for Outstanding Contributions to Regional Ornithology."

On receiving this award, Jim joins many important contributors to American ornithology, including the first recipient of the award, Roger Tory Peterson, in 1980.



Figure 2. James J. Dinsmore with the ABA Ludlow Griscom Award plaque and Leupold binoculars.

The ABA Ludlow Griscom Award is sponsored by Leupold Optics who presented Jim with a plaque and a pair of Leupold binoculars. They also presented ABA with a \$1,000 contribution to the ABA Education Fund in recognition of Jim's contributions in regional ornithology.

Although the ABA requires strict secrecy about the award recipients prior to the presentation, several Iowans and Nebraskans were in attendance and pleased to congratulate Jim on his well deserved honor.

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Shorebird Usage of Spring Sheet-Water Pools

Matthew C. Kenne

The middle two weeks of May are the peak period of shorebird migration in Iowa, with two dozen species in passage at that time. Historically in northcentral Iowa, these migrants would take advantage of abundant food resources at small wetlands to fuel themselves for the remainder of their journey to Arctic nesting areas. Those food resources are now greatly reduced, as the Upper Des Moines River drainage, once the epicenter of the Iowa's Prairie Pothole region, is now almost completely cultivated for row-crop agriculture. But even after more than 100 years of drainage, extreme rain events expose the vestiges of that lost landscape, leaving the countryside dotted with shallow, short-lived pools. My impression has been that these new potholes, while similar in appearance to mudflats at established areas, are generally bypassed, with most birds continuing their search for better conditions elsewhere.

METHODS

Northern Kossuth County received more than six inches of rain 6–13 May 2005, flooding farmland and raising the East Fork of the Des Moines River three feet over flood stage. On 18 May 2005, I surveyed flooded basins on farm fields in northern Kossuth County to quantify their usage by migrant shorebirds. A route was followed from Algona to Highway 9 near Swea City and Lakota and back to Algona, which would pass the most field flooding. The pools needed to be viewable from the road for ease in detection and identification of shorebirds, but water areas contiguous with regular flowing streams or Union Slough NWR were not included in the survey. The pools were categorized as either small (up to 10 yards across) or large (up to dozens of acres in area). The substrate of the pools was either planted (corn planting was 90% completed, with few fields showing corn breaking the crust), stubble (with the remains of last year's crop), or grass (conservation areas). Speed was a requirement for personal reasons; therefore, many observations were made on the fly, like a shorebird. Unless a bird was seen on the water, or a silhouette seen around the perimeter, most pools on bare planted ground were checked while only slowing the vehicle. Stubble and grassy areas required fast stops to look for motion and listen for calling birds. If nothing was seen, I continued quickly down the road. Obviously, when I say certain pools contained "no" birds, I cannot be positive of this because of distance and the difficulties of seeing birds in stubble or grass. While individuals were undoubtedly missed at some of these locations, there were not any flocks of meaningful size present.

RESULTS

In all, I drove 125 miles on 18 May 2005 from 6:30 A.M. until 2:00 P.M., collected data from 38 small and 152 large pools, and found 13 species of migrant shorebirds (Table 1).

The ten highest counts, all from large pools, were as follows:

- 200 Pectoral Sandpipers, 10 Least Sandpipers, and 6 Lesser Yellowlegs (grass)
- 3 Short-billed Dowitchers and 12 Pectoral Sandpipers
- 50 Pectoral Sandpipers, 10 Semipalmated Sandpipers, and 6 Least Sandpipers
- 12 American Golden-Plovers
- 15 Semipalmated Sandpipers and 6 Least Sandpipers
- 80 Pectoral Sandpipers, 22 Lesser Yellowlegs, 14 American Golden-Plovers, 10 Semipalmated Sandpipers, 16 Least Sandpipers, 3 White-rumped Sandpipers, and 3 Dunlin
- 7 Short-billed Dowitchers and 7 Black-bellied Plovers
- 20 Pectoral Sandpipers, 20 Peep, and 2 Lesser Yellowlegs
- 60 Pectoral Sandpipers, 20 Peep, 7 Short-billed Dowitchers, 2 American Golden-Plovers, 6 Dunlin, and 2 Lesser Yellowlegs
- 8 American Golden-Plovers, 8 Pectoral Sandpipers, and 7 Hudsonian Godwits (planted)

The following additional species were also observed on 18 May: Greater Yellowlegs, Solitary Sandpiper, and Wilson's Phalarope.

Table 1. Shorebird usage of sheet-water pools in northern Kossuth Co., 18 May 2005

Pools used by birds (No.)	Substrate			Total
	Planted	Stubble	Grass	
Small Pools				
0	22	10	3	35
1–10 ^a	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>
Subtotal	23	12	3	38
Large Pools				
0	57	50	6	113
1–10	9	18	2	29
>10	<u>1</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>10</u>
Subtotal	67	76	9	152
Total	90	88	12	190

^a None of the small pools had more than 10 shorebirds.

DISCUSSION

Migrant shorebirds were found on 22% of the pools surveyed. Only 8% of the small pools held shorebirds, whereas 26% of the large pools did. Of the three substrates, only 12% of the pools on bare, planted ground had any birds. Except for American Golden Plovers and Hudsonian Godwits pulling earthworms from the mud at one location, there was little foraging activity in and around pools on planted ground. In contrast, 32% of the stubble areas and 25% of the grassy areas held shorebirds. On these pools, Dunlin, dowitchers, and a few yellowlegs and Pectoral Sandpipers foraged in shallows, but most birds were seen out of the water. The lack of birds at most locations matched my past experiences, and it seems likely that the short time, cool temperatures, and cloudy conditions since the rains could not generate enough invertebrate growth to host large numbers of migrating shorebirds.

On the other hand, the mere presence of shorebirds on these agricultural fields indicates that feeding opportunities exist around these sheet-water pools that would not exist under normal conditions. In fact, these pools may actually be the only viable shorebird feeding locations remaining in an area as flooding inundates permanent wetland edges. For example, no migrant shorebirds were found during this period on the International Shorebird Survey route I run at Union Slough NWR because of the increased water depth.

The spotty distribution of shorebirds among these pools may have as much to do with the nature of flocking as with any possible favorable feeding conditions. A few birds visible from the air may simply act as decoys, giving a sense of security that draws more passing individuals to a particular area. That sense of safety from numbers possibly affects another behavior observed at these pools: bathing. A Short-billed Dowitcher, two Pectoral Sandpipers, a Least Sandpiper, and one of two and four of 14 American Golden-Plovers were seen bathing at the three pools with the largest concentrations of shorebirds. Rest and feather maintenance are obviously important activities for migrating shorebirds, but they were secondary to foraging during my observations.

SURVEY ROUTE REVISITED

I revisited much of the survey route again on 30 May 2005. Many of the pools were dry, but large pools remained in several areas. This search was not as complete as the first, but a few comparisons can be made.

I specifically checked the ten pools that earlier had more than ten individual shorebirds. Only one of these ten pools still held water, but it was devoid of shorebirds. And only two locations were wet, one of which had three Black-bellied Plovers, a Semipalmated Plover, and 12 Dunlin patrolling the mud. On the earlier survey, 24% (10) of the forty-two locations with shorebirds had more than 10 individuals. On the later survey, 58% (7) of the twelve locations with birds had more than 10 individuals. However, the average number of birds at these locations fell from 65 on 18 May to 20 on 30 May, probably an artifact of the late timing in the migration period. As in the first survey, most feeding activity was focused on the muddy fringe surrounding the pools with two notable exceptions: a flock of 46 Dunlin continuously probed the shallows of one pool, and a male Red-necked Phalarope foraged in a small pool after a bath while five Semipalmated Sandpipers picked the surrounding mud. I found nine species of migratory shorebirds using the remaining pools on 30 May: Black-bellied Plover (3), American Golden-Plover, Semipalmated Sandpiper (5 at two locations), Lesser Yellowlegs (2), Semipalmated Sandpiper (51 at seven locations), White-rumped Sandpiper (32 at six locations), Pectoral Sandpiper (17 at four locations), Dunlin (69 at three locations), and the Red-necked Phalarope.

Searching for spring migrant shorebirds on farm fields splashed with sheet-water can be frustrating given the lack of birds at so many seemingly excellent locations, but perseverance usually pays. In general, focusing on larger pools in last year's stubble or grassy areas gives the best chance for hitting the occasional jackpot of shorebirds.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you to James J. Dinsmore, whose comments on an earlier version greatly improved this article.

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Brambling in Linn County: First Iowa Record

William Scheible



Figure 1. First Iowa record Brambling, Cedar Rapids, Linn, 21 January 2006. Photograph by John Houck, Cedar Rapids, IA.

On New Year's Day, 2006, John Houck of rural Cedar Rapids hosted an annual reunion of four card-playing high school buddies. One of these fellows, Lonnn McGuire, is a biologist with the Corps of Engineers and John Houck is a long-time backyard birdwatcher. Both men have more than a passing interest in birds, and during the day they observed a strange bird in the yard, loosely associating with House Sparrows but unlike anything they had seen before. Their initial impression was of an "odd-plumaged goldfinch."

On 18 January, the bird was observed again by John and his wife Michelle. The three observers pieced together salient field marks: (1) orange scapulars and breast, (2) gray head with a darker streak on either side of the nape, (3) dull yellow bill with a black tip, and (4) white rump

when the bird flew. The bird was virtually identical to House Sparrows in size. Still, the identity of this visitor remained a puzzle.

On Saturday, 21 January, the bird made a third witnessed appearance and was again seen by John and Michelle Houck. Photographs were hurriedly taken with their new digital camera (Figures 1 and 2). The photos were then shown to employees of Weir Nelson's Wildlife Habitat store, who were able to find a perfect match to Brambling in Kenn Kaufman's field guide (2000, p. 356). A couple of Cedar Rapids Audubon birders were alerted and phone numbers were exchanged, but the bird never again made an appearance.

Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*) is one of the most common breeding birds of the boreal birch/pine forests of northern Europe and Asia, from Scandinavia to Siberia. Members of the finch family, Bramblings are famous for their highly irregular winter migrations to



Figure 2. Brambling, Cedar Rapids, Linn, 21 January 2006. Photograph by John Houck, Cedar Rapids, IA.

southern Europe, North Africa, India, China, and Japan. In winter, they are particularly tied to beech mast and will often appear in enormous numbers when conditions are suitable.

Brambling is a fairly regular winter visitor to Alaska and often strays into states in the northwestern United States. It has been recorded on three Christmas Bird Counts in British Columbia during the past decade. Four states bordering Iowa (Minnesota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Wisconsin) have records of this species. Kent and Dinsmore (1996) included Brambling among their 17 species of yet unrecorded birds that were most likely to appear in Iowa.

John Houck's photographs and a narrative summary were submitted to the IOU Records Committee and have been accepted as documentation of species No. 414 on the state list. Given its penchant for wandering, and with an ever expanding base of feeder watchers as well as avid birders, it seems likely that Brambling could soon make another appearance in our state.

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Acorn Woodpecker in Story County: First Iowa Record

Ann M. Johnson and Keenan Zeltinger

In mid-September Keenan Zeltinger, a student at Iowa State University, asked for identification help from members of the IA-BIRD listserv. What transpired was documentation of Iowa's first Acorn Woodpecker (see back cover photo), the furthest northeast that one has ever been recorded. In a year where a male Vermilion Flycatcher staked his territory in a Guthrie County pasture and Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks and White-winged Doves seemed to be roaming the state, perhaps this should not come as a huge surprise.

Keenan was birding at Brookside Park in Ames (near the location of the 2006 Painted Bunting) on 1 or 2 September when he stumbled across this bird. He posted the following.

"This photo was taken either 1 or 2 September in the late morning. I was at Brookside

Park in Ames. On the north side of the park (back on the dirt trails). I am not sure exactly where I spotted it, but I drove around to the backside of the baseball diamonds (small parking lot back there) and walked into that entrance.

"The bird almost seemed sick. He didn't seem to be afraid at all. Stayed in the open most of the time, and allowed me to get really close.

"Sorry about taking so long to post it, but I just got the photos back, and I didn't want to post what I suspected without further confirmation."

This report, accompanied by an easily recognizable photo of an Acorn Woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*), was accepted by the IOU Records Committee and becomes species No. 412 on the state list.

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Painted Bunting in Story County: Second Iowa Record

Shane S. Patterson

On the morning of 7 May 2006, Katy Patterson and I were concluding a hike through the floodplain woodland of Brookside Park in Ames. Following a familiar trail at the west edge, I noticed a small bird flush from the dense understory. Because this was during a time of migrant influx, I turned my binoculars in the direction of the movement. My curiosity was greeted by an unexpected bird staring back at me with a red-ringed eye set off against a rich-blue head. This Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) male (Figure 1 and front cover photograph) was perched on a low, exposed piece of brush about four meters high and about six to seven meters away from where we were standing.

At this point, I knew that I had to absorb as much information as possible and thoroughly document the event. I had to assume that we would be the only witnesses, not knowing that many others would be able to observe and photograph this bird in subsequent weeks. In retrospect, much of this description would appear as undue effort for such a vibrant, easy-to-identify species. However, there had been only one accepted record of Painted Bunting in Iowa (Proescholdt 2002), despite additional reports. Thus, I took down as much information as needed for a secure identification. What follows is a description of our initial encounter with the Painted Bunting — a description much like the one I prepared directly from my notes that same day.

From that nearly eye-level perch, where the bird remained for about 10 to 15 seconds,

I quickly noted the following characteristics of a male Painted Bunting. This was an Indigo Bunting-sized and -shaped bird with a dark-blue head and contrasting red eye-ring, traits that I noticed immediately. Other obvious aspects of color included continuous red down the breast, belly, and throat; contrasting bright-green on the back; and darker green on the wings. Because I was facing west toward an open field, the morning light created suitable viewing conditions of the bird on an unobstructed snag.

After this moment of cooperation, the bunting flew up toward trees just to the south of us. (Incidentally, this was the point at which Katy also saw the bird, as my hurried directions were of little help at first.) The bird's red rump, contrasting with the tail and back, really did stand out as he ascended. Additionally, I could still see the bright-red underside and greenish wings as he settled into dense foliage, although he was largely hidden otherwise. As he flitted short distances within the foliage, I had to re-position myself accordingly. This enabled me to briefly discern both the blue head and portions of the body again. From that point forward, there were extended lulls where the bird was either obscured or only exposed enough to allow viewing of the bright-red coloration of the belly.

In addition to being boldly colored, this bird sang at least three times, thus providing another avenue of identification. As he was singing in the middle canopy, I noted the song as a soft, pleasant, Blue Grosbeak-like warble. The song was smooth and subtle — unlike the explosive, paired-note performances of newly arrived Indigo Buntings nearby. The overall feel was clearly more reminiscent of Blue Grosbeak than Indigo Bunting, and the former is not an established visitor to Brookside Park's wooded environs.

Along with other observers, I achieved much better looks on return trips. On both the 9th and the 11th, I saw the bird perched on outer branches of lower trees and shrubs. Obvious traits like the blue head, red eye-ring, bright-green back, red rump, and red front were even more apparent in the gentle morning light. Better yet, on the 11th, I watched the bird calmly forage in gravel and short grass along a shrubby fencerow. Furthermore, I also heard his warbling song emanate from a variety of territorial locations each day, much like I did during numerous trips in the ensuing weeks.

As of the completion of this article, the Painted Bunting was last observed on 31 July, indicating that he had persisted at Brookside for at least 85 days — all the way through the end of the summer field-report season. This long stay, coupled with the bird's convenient location for many birders, brought about a wealth of interesting behavioral information. The Iowa Records Committee accepted the bird as the second Iowa record Painted Bunting.



Second Iowa record Painted Bunting, Brookside Park, Ames, Story, 13 May 2006.

Photograph by Paul Roisen, Sioux City, IA.

Proescholdt, B. 2002. Painted Bunting in Marshall County. *Iowa Bird Life* 72:184.

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Fifty Years Ago in Iowa Bird Life

James J. Dinsmore

The September 1956 issue of Iowa Bird Life is packed with several interesting articles. The lead article by Ward Tanner and George Hendrickson describes a study of nesting King Rails at the Deweys Pasture area in Clay County. Six nests were found in 1951 but none in 1952 or 1953. Four of the nests were successful. This study provides about the only Iowa data we have on King Rail nests.

An article by Woodward Brown describes two Yellow-crowned Night-Heron nests found near the Des Moines River in Des Moines. These were the first nests for this species known from Iowa and provide much of what we know about this species' nesting habits for Iowa.

A short article by J. A. Jumber, Ed Kozicky, and Dennis Carter describes nest-site characteristics for Mourning Doves at Lewis in Cass County, the site of several earlier Mourning Dove studies. Articles by Fred Kent and William Youngworth describe their observations of migrants near Iowa City and Sioux City respectively during spring 1956.

Among several short notes is one by long-time Iowa birder M. L. Jones. He tells of seeing a Painted Bunting near Estherville on Memorial Day 1956. One of the most debated reports in Records Committee history, the bird was described as "an adult in all its glorious plumage" but no description of the bird was provided nor was it even indicated that it was a male. As most birders know, Iowans had to wait 50 years until this spring's male Painted Bunting in Ames gave them a chance to finally see this species in Iowa.

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Bylaws of the Projects Committee of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union

Approved by the IOU Board of Directors on 1 June 2006

PURPOSE

1. To collect, review, and evaluate requests for funding of outside projects.
2. To provide and distribute funds for projects. Projects have a benefit to the conservation of birds in Iowa through education, preservation of land, or promoting public interest in birds.

3. To promote the Iowa Ornithologists' Union (IOU) to nonmembers by increasing publicity of the IOU through sponsorship of projects.

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

1. The committee shall consist of four members.
2. Terms on the committee shall be four years with one member appointed by the board of directors to the committee each year. Terms shall begin on 1 June, after the first annual meeting of the IOU in the year of the appointment. No member shall serve consecutive terms. When a member's term on the committee expires, that member is not eligible for reappointment for at least one year.
3. The committee may recommend persons to the board of directors to fill vacated or expiring positions.
4. A member may be removed from the committee by a unanimous vote of the other three members and subsequent approval by the board of directors.
5. The committee may create and elect committee officers, but will include at least a chair.

COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

1. The committee may set up such procedures as are needed for its operation, as long as they do not conflict with the IOU Constitution or the committee's bylaws.
2. The committee may recommend changes in its bylaws to the board of directors.
3. The committee may hold meetings as needed and/or conduct business by mail, e-mail, or phone. The chair, or any three members, may call a meeting.
4. The committee shall set up its own procedures for evaluation of funding requests and publish these procedures or any changes to them with their annual report.
5. The chair shall conduct meetings unless otherwise decided by the committee.
6. The chair shall serve at the pleasure of the committee.

FINANCES

1. The committee shall submit a prospective budget to the board of directors (by the president) prior to January of a calendar year.
2. No monies shall be expended beyond those in the yearly budget.
3. No member shall receive remuneration for work on the committee. Any benefits, direct or indirect, to a committee member, relative, or friend shall first be discussed and considered by the committee.
4. Any benefits, direct or indirect, to administrative positions established by the committee or to persons appointed to these positions shall be discussed and considered prior to establishment of the position or appointment of the person. If such benefits are substantial or represent a significant conflict of interest, they shall have prior approval of the board of directors.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES (renewable yearly): Fledgling (students) \$15, Institutional \$20, Goldfinch \$20, Bluebird \$35, Oriole \$50, Egret \$75, Osprey \$100, Bald Eagle \$250, and Peregrine Falcon \$500+. Membership dues entitle members to receive *Iowa Bird Life* and *IOU News* quarterly and to vote and hold office in the Union. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Manage your membership on-line at <www.iowabirds.org> or send new subscriptions and memberships, back issue requests, or address changes to Douglas Hunt, 1201 High Ave., West, Oskaloosa, IA 52577 (iou@mahaska.org). Renewals may be sent to the IOU Treasurer (see inside front cover).

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS: Original manuscripts, notes, letters (indicate if for publication), editorials, and other material relating to birds in Iowa should be sent in Word or WordPerfect to the editor. Research manuscripts will be sent for peer review. Submission of material should be by e-mail attachment or CD/DVD; alternatively, by mail, typed, or handwritten.

Photos and graphics: Submit photos and slides preferably as TIFF (*.tif) images or as high resolution JPEG (*.jpg) images in e-mail attachment or on CD/DVD.

Send all materials other than seasonal field reports to Kayleen A. Niyo at Kay@KayNiyo.com or by mail to 25100 Sunset Lane, Evergreen, CO 80439. Deadlines for submission are **January 1 for winter issue (Vol. 1), April 1 for spring issue (2), July 1 for summer issue (3), October 1 for fall issue (4)**. Send seasonal field reports to field reports editors by deadlines listed on inside front cover.

IOU NEWS: Paul Hertzell, Editor, 1432 East State Street, Mason City, IA 50401 (phertzell@rconnect.com)

IOU WEB SITE: <www.iowabirds.org>, Ann Johnson, Webmaster

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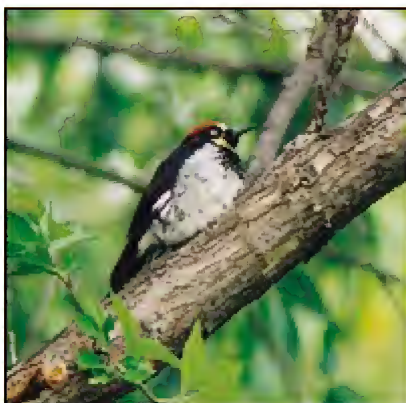
UPCOMING MEETING OF THE IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION: Fall 2006: 8–10 September, Hotel Manning, Keosauqua

FRONT COVER PHOTO: Second state record Painted Bunting, Brookside Park, Ames, *Story*, 13 May 2005. Photograph by Don Poggensee, Ida Grove, IA. See article and field reports in this issue.

BACK COVER PHOTO: First state record Acorn Woodpecker, Brookside Park, Ames, *Story*, 1 or 2 September 2005. Photograph by Keenan Zeltinger, Ames, IA.

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